North Carolina's premier pickle makers • *Page 16*

C6.5/C24

Volume 28, No. 4, April 1996

CAROLINA COUNTRY

Official publication of Carolina Electric Cooperatives

The calm after the storm

Page 6

Collection
University of NC Library
Wilson Library CB 3930
Chapel Hill, NC 27599

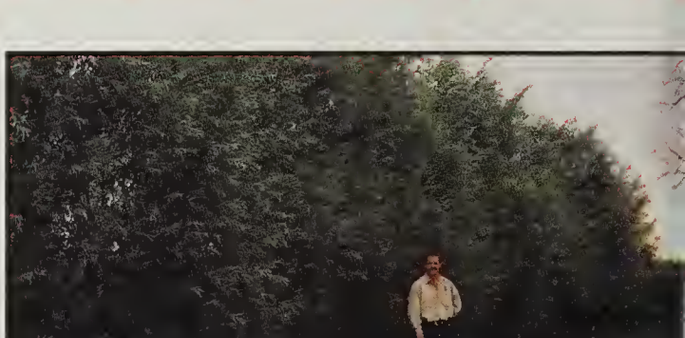
WHAT IS...?

STOPPING YOU FROM GETTING YOUR

Instant Windbreak NOW!

you need AUSTREES®!!!

Get Your FREE 8 page Color Brochure



USE AUSTREES FOR:

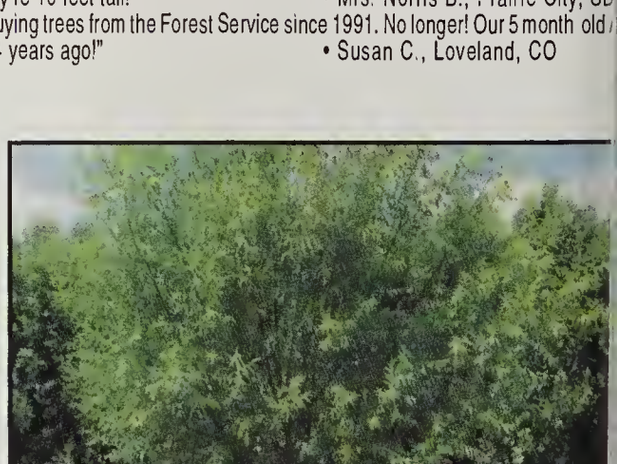
- ☆ Privacy Screens
- ☆ Dust and Noise Barriers
- ☆ Shade Trees
- ☆ Hedges and Windbreaks
- ☆ Wildlife Habitat
- ☆ Erosion Control
- ☆ General Landscaping

CAN GROW UP TO 15 FEET A YEAR!

"I'd heard of the amazing growth of the Austrees, so when I planted my trees, I staked th recorded their daily growth; an amazing 7/8" to 1" a day!" • Terry H., McKinney
"When I purchased your Austrees in June, I was somewhat skeptical. Not any more. Af four months, they are over 10 feet tall!" • Allen B., Clinton, MT
"The Austrees provide literally 'instant privacy'. After 6 months of growth we could our neighbors at all. We love the trees." • Mac T., Osage City, KS
"We bought 60 trees for a dust barrier along our dirt road. People keep stoppin watch them grow. They are truly remarkable." • Pamela W., Bend, OR
"Usually, if something seems too good to be true, it is. Austrees are not. In just 5 my six foot trees have doubled in size. I am amazed!!" • Leo S., Warner Robb

"We are thrilled. We planted them on April 15th, had a blizzard on April 26th with temps in the teens, and were afraid the end of them. It's now Sept. and they're 10 feet tall!" • Mrs. Norris B., Prairie City, SD
"We live in the foothills and have been buying trees from the Forest Service since 1991. No longer! Our 5 month old have outgrown our pine trees planted 4 years ago!" • Susan C., Loveland, CO

3 year old windbreak



Noise barriers

Supplies Are Limited • Trees Available
On A First Come First Served Basis

1-800-293-5230

ONLY AVAILABLE FROM

Rocky Mountain Austree®, In.

P.O. Box 9307 • Colorado Springs, CO • 809

Over 3 Million Thriving In Every US State And Canada • Very Hardy And Disease Resist

CAROLINA COUNTRY
(ISSN 0008-6746)
Read monthly in more than 350,000 homes
Volume 28, No. 4, April 1996

Official Publication
Carolina Electric Cooperatives

Carolina Electric Coaperotives is the network af electric coaperative argonizotions thot provides relioble, sofe ond offordoble electric service to 650,000 homes, forms ond businesses in North Caralina. At the heart of Caralino Electric Coaperatives ore the state's 28 electric coaperatives, each member-awned, nat-far-profit ond averseen by a baord af directors elected by the membership.

Manager, Corporate Communications
Jay Johnson

Editor
Michael E.C. Gery

Special Projects Editor
Owen Bishop

Business/Advertising Coordinator
Monica Russell

Graphic Designer/Artist
Katherine Fowler

Staff Writer
Kim Whorton

Advertising Sales
Jennifer Boedart Hoey

Member
Audit Bureau of Circulations

Coralina Cauntry ® is published by the North Corolino Assaciotian af Electric Caoperotives, Inc., the trade orgonizatian af Carolino Electric Cooperotives. Second class postoge paid ot Raleigh, N.C., ond odditianal mailing offices. Editoriol offices: P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Phone: (800) 662-8835, ext. 310. Caralina Cauntry is a registered trodemork of the North Coralino Associotion of Electric Cooperotives, Inc.

Postmoster: Send form 3579 to P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

Individual subscriptians, $6 per yeor.

To chonge oddress, send mogazine moiling lobel. Address oll moil to Coralino Cauntry, P.O. 8ox 27306, Roleigh,N.C. 27611.

Printed on recycled paper

PRINTED WITH SOY INK

Advertising published in Corolino Cauntry is occepted on the premise thot the merchondise ond services offered ore accurotely described ond willingly sold to customers ot the odvertised price. The magazine, North Caralino Associotion of Electric Coaperatives, Inc., ond the member cooperotives do not necessorily endorse the products or services odvertised. Advertising hot does not conform to these standords or thot is deceptive or misleoding is never knowingly accepted. Should you encounter odvertising thot does not comply with these stondords, please inform Caralino Country ot P.O. Box 27306, Roleigh, NC 27611. 919) 713-1310.

Volume 28, No. 4, April 1996

CAROLINA COUNTRY

FEATURES

"Thanks so much..." 6
The state's electric cooperatives received more fan mail after this winter's storms than ever before. They must be doing something right.

Competition Comes to Electric Service 10
It's inevitable that regulations governing the electric service industry will loosen. We don't know how soon or how loose, but your electric cooperative is prepared.

DEPARTMENTS

Letters and Comments 4
Your letters about clabber, quilting, seeds, candlewicking, gardening . . .

Focus 14
Cape Hatteras lighthouse license plates... N.C. bluegrass roots...New songs for children.

On the Cover
Rehobeth Church at Eastertime. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the church on U.S. 64 near Skinnersville in north Washington County was built by slaves in 1853. Photograph by Michael E.C. Gery.

Here, There & Everywhere 22
April 6 - May 5.

Uniquely Downtown Arts, Salisbury, April 17.

Hank's Gardening Guide 24
Advice on planting vines.

Marketplace 26-27
A monthly showcase of goods and services.

Joyner's Corner 28
A springtime puzzle, plus taxing instructions.

Classified Ads 29

Country Kitchen 30
Basil Chicken Medley.

Letters and Comments

What Do You Think?

Mail: P.O. Box 27306
Raleigh, NC 27611
Phone: (800) 662-8835, ext. 367
Fax: (800) 230-3144
E-mail: 75471.2247
@compuserve.com

Carolina Country *magazine is available each month to households and businesses that are members of the following North Carolina electric cooperatives. If you are a consumer-member of one of these cooperatives, but do not receive Carolina Country, you may request to subscribe by calling the office of your cooperative.*

Albemarle EMC	(919-426-5735)
Blue Ridge Electric	(704-758-2383)
Cape Hatteras Electric	(919-995-5616)
Central EMC	(919-774-4900)
Crescent EMC	(704-873-5241)
Davidson EMC	(704-249-3131)
Edgecombe-Martin Co. EMC	(919-823-2171)
Four County EMC	(910-259-2171)
Halifax EMC	(919-445-5111)
Harkers Island EMC	(919-728-2593)
Haywood EMC	(704-452-2281)
Jones-Onslow EMC	(910-353-1940)
Lumbee River EMC	(910-843-4131)
Pee Dee EMC	(704-694-2114)
Piedmont EMC	(919-732-2123)
Pitt & Greene EMC	(919-753-3128)
Randolph EMC	(910-625-5177)
Roanoke Electric	(919-539-2236)
Rutherford EMC	(704-245-1621)
South River EMC	(910-892-8071)
Surry-Yadkin EMC	(910-386-8241)
Tideland EMC	(919-943-3046)
Tri-County EMC	(919-735-2611)
Union EMC	(704-289-3145)
Wake EMC	(919-554-6300)

Educating Greene County students

Mary Betty Kearney, county schools coordinator in Greene County, called to say she has recommended that teachers use some of the "Joyner's Corner" puzzles a school lesson material. (Here is some advance information for Greene County students: We are preparing a major North Carolina puzzle for the May "See North Carolina" issue of Carolina Country.)

"It's not junk"

Nancy Joyner called from Virginia to inquire about classified advertising. She said she has read and saved every issue of Carolina Country that she has received, except the one issue she loaned to her nephew. Her husband keeps telling her to "get rid of this junk," she said. But she replies, "It's not junk! It's Carolina Country magazine!"

Armchair gardener

I have been reading my brother-in-law's Carolina Country when he saves them for me. Now I am sending $12 for a two-year subscription of my own. I may live in the city, but I can't shed that country way of living. I always had a large garden when I was physically able to make one. Now I garden and farm from my recliner. I was raised on a farm, and that feeling never leaves you.

Verna S. Gaffey, Gastonia

Knowing your clabber from your buttermilk

I, too, have made a churn or two of butter the real way, with the old dasher sloshing up and down. True, it took a long time and aching arms for a small girl. Regina Hill brought back many pleasant memories ["Homemade Butter," February 1996]. Yes, even the Great Depression left some good memories, and the warm kitchen is one.

I still enjoy a glass of cold buttermilk with a hunk of cornbread, and even a slab of warm poundcake (one of my idiosyncrasies). But I must take exception to what Mrs. Hill calls buttermilk. What you have when the cream is thickening is called "clabber." Buttermilk does not come until the butter is made. After the butter is removed, you have buttermilk. I think I'll go make a poundcake now.

Mary Cole, Cashiers

Have seeds, will trade

Anyone interested in exchanging seeds? I have the following: yellow cosmos, spiderplant, chives, jasmine, globe, purple blazing stars, double holly hocks, red hummingbird/cypress vine. I am looking for sea shell cosmos, candy stripe cosmos, different sunflowers, yellow jasmine, moon & stars watermelon, nicotana, yellow asclepias tuberosa.

Sheila Hamer, 1413 Burlwood R
Concord, NC 280

Looking for candlewicking patterns

I am looking for candlewicking pattern of flowers, cats and ducks. I am especially interested in cat and duck pattern but sure would appreciate any kind. I a a heart patient and retired, not able to any outside work at all. I do these thin both for myself and for gifts.

Kathleen Pryor, 106 Misty La
Kings Mountain, NC 280

Fan mail about Beaufort memories

Thank you so very much for printing the article about my book, my husband and me ["Journal," November 1995]. I enjoyed writing those little stories so very much and I have been overwhelmed at the response I have had. I had no idea these stories would be so popular. I have had the most phone cal thanking me, asking for advice, etc. I al received a stack of letters that I have answered. I almost feel like an Ann Landers, but I love people and I have kept each letter.

Helen Hendrix Carlton, Matthe

The book, "Remembering the Beauf I Knew," is available for $15 from Mrs W.C. Carlton at 733 Plantation Estate Apt. C-102, Matthews, NC 28105.

Looking for Outer Banks quilters

I recently moved to Hatteras Island and am looking for a quilting guild in this area f any readers could help me, please write or call me at (919) 995-6774. I am a fairly new quilter. I would appreciate any help a reader can offer.

Noreen Reasor, Box 984, Buxton, NC 27

$1.00 per box NAME BRAND CEREAL

STOP PAYING $3.50 TO $5.50 FOR CEREAL!

- I like the savings and my wife likes the convenience. This is terrific! - J. K.
- Who wouldn't like getting their favorite cereal for $1.00 a box? I'm delighted. - D. L.
- It's great! I can't believe how easy it is to save money. - J. M.

Your satisfaction guaranteed or your money back!

START SAVING NOW - Call for your free brochure!

EXCELLENT for FUNDRAISERS too! **1-800-689-8087**

NAME BRAND COFFEE for $1.00 per can also available

WRGI - 1995 Kiowa Road - Bennett, CO 80102

When illness strikes, the last thing you need to worry about is paying medical bills

A medical emergency shouldn't cause a financial emergency, too. With the **RE Member Group Major Medical Plan**, you can have comprehensive medical coverage—including hospital stays, surgery, doctors, prescription drugs and medical expenses—up to $1 million in lifetime benefits!

The RE Member Group Major Medical Plan was designed exclusively for rural electric consumers—with group rates everyone can afford. With a choice of two copayment options, plus a range of deductibles, it's easy to tailor the plan to fit you or your family's budget.

The plan is sponsored by National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), which has been providing its member rural electric cooperatives across the country with quality products and services since 1942.

Call (800) 543-9213 today for more information.
9 am to 5 pm Central Standard Time, Monday-Friday.

RE Member Group Major Medical Plan

YES! Send me a personalized quote, at no obligation. I understand no agent will visit or call. My preferred deductible is: ❒$500 ❒$1,000 ❒$1,500 ❒$2,000 ❒$5,000

Name *(Please Print)* _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ County _____

❒ Male ❒ Female Date of Birth _____

Name of Rural Cooperative _____

❒ I need coverage for six months or less

❒ Check here for information about affordable life insurance

Mail to: RE Group Insurance Plans, 600 Princeton Parkway, Kentland, Indiana 47951

Underwritten by THE UNITED STATES LIFE Insurance Company
A USLIFE COMPANY

NC0496

"Thanks so much for being a caring company."

Coping with a winter storm; the cooperative way

Ice and snow in January and February damaged more electric distribution systems in North Carolina than in any other winter storm period in recent memory. Record-setting cold in the central and western parts of the state prolonged the discomfort of those who endured power outages and those trying to repair them.

In such conditions, cooperative employees go into high gear, devoting themselves non-stop to restoring electric service to all their members. All their technical and safety training, their communication and organizing skills, are pressed into service. Cooperatives who can spare personnel dispatch help to fellow cooperatives that need it, and outside contractors also are called in to assist.

During the ice storm in the first week of February, more than 110,000 households and businesses served by 18 electric co-ops lost power. Western Piedmont and foothills residents in the Crescent, Davidson and Rutherford EMCs were hit hardest. Th biggest problem: power lines snapped in two by falling, ice-laden trees. Cooperatives collectively required more than 57,000 splices — a record number — from their central supply warehouse in Raleigh to repair power lines. Damage exceede $8.4 million across the statewide network.

Electric cooperatives have a reputation for excellent servic The reason: we are owned by the people we serve, which makes excellent customer service our No. 1 priority. The quick restoration of power during these storms was an example of our customer-first priority.

Many co-op members know this. And they appreciate it.

The following selection of notes and calls is only a small sa ple of what cooperatives have received since February. Co-op staff members say they have never received such an apprecia tive response.

From Haywood EMC

We have lived in several places across the United States and overseas, and we can truly say the power crew here is the very best. When you call the 800 number to report the power outage, you receive a call back assuring you they have a crew on it. This left me with a very positive feeling.

Nancy and Hank Porter, Waynesville

The lady answering my two calls was very courteous, well-informed and calm as she described the efforts being made to restore service. You are to be complimented by having this lady in your employment.

Thomas F. Savage Jr., Clyde

Six feet of snow in May of '92! The Blizzard of '93. Hurricane Opal in October of '9 The Blizzard of '96. The Ice Storm of '96! Mother Nature is showing us that she w do as she pleases. Considering the conditions encountered, it seems to us that powe restored incredibly fast. To us, Haywood EMC employees are a bunch of heros.

Occasionally we'll read a disgruntled letter about higher electrical rates paid by c op members served by Haywood EMC. Well, we think the higher rates are worth be on Haywood EMC and hope you'll always be our source of electricity.

Dick and Susan C. Gary, Cana

You brightened the day and the whole week in a special way! Thanks again for working hard to keep trees trimmed and our power on.

May Thorson, Sappl

I could not believe that you were all out in that icy wind and cold the night that yo restored our lights at 9:07 p.m. The lady from the office phoned and asked if the pow was restored. I told her, "Yes, praise the Lord, and thank the line crew." Stop in our place any time you are up on the mountain and are cold and want a cup of hot coff

Edward J. Maxey, Waynesv

continued on pa 8

Raft Our Newest National Park!

One to three day raft trips in the "Grand Canyon of the East"— the New River Gorge — or the nearby Gauley River. Excitement, fun, adventure, stunning scenery, and lots more to do in this new national park.

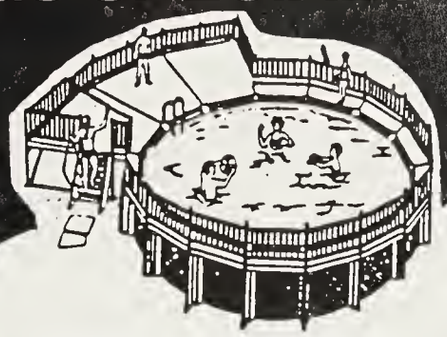
FREE WHITEWATER INFORMATION

Call 1-800-344-RAFT (7238), Ext. 348

Easy to get to!
Call for Directions.

SPRING SAVINGS SPECIALS!

BUY NOW AND SAVE $ $ $ $ $



Introducing '96 pools at '95 prices!
*FREE! Order now and we'll include $100. worth of pool chemicals!

INSTALLATION INCLUDED
ON IMPERIAL POOLS ONLY

THE IMPERIAL*

- Filter and Pump
- Set-in Vinyl Lining
- Heavy Guage Bracing
- Sun Deck
- Full Walk Deck
- Fence and Stairs
- Pool Ladder

While They Last!
THE MARINER
Brand New
31' x 19'
family size pool
$799
Installation Extra
Includes Sundeck, Fence and Filter

ASK ABOUT OUR COMPLETE LINE OF ALUMINUM POOLS
MOBILE HOMES WELCOMED

NO MONEY DOWN EASY FINANCING

FREE SHOP AT HOME SERVICE 24 HOUR TOLL FREE SERVICE DAILY AND SUNDAY

SUPERIOR POOLS
CALL NOW 1-800-241-5200

Country Curtains®

Every Window Deserves A Great Curtain!

In our catalog you'll discover just the right answers for your windows... easily and affordably! Hundreds of wonderful ready-made choices, something for every style of home... from colonial to contemporary... coast to coast!

Please Call TODAY For Your FREE Catalog! **1-800-876-6123**

ASK FOR DEPT. 2396

❑ Please send FREE catalog.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

Country Curtains®
At The Red Lion Inn
Dept. 2396, Stockbridge, MA 01262

The Original LOG CABIN HOMES™

The Georgian

$49,459.00* Basic Package Price

The *Original* Log Cabin Homes Ltd.

PO Drawer 1457 • 410 N. Pearl Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27802
919/977-7785 • FAX 919/985-2810 • **1-800-56-CABIN**

YES! Please send me the New Color Edition of the Log Home Planning Guide with *FREE* Wood Species samples and a Homestead Planning Guide. Both books are $15.95 including Shipping.

V/MC/AE _____ Exp. _____
Name _____
Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

CC4

*Basic Package Price • See your LCH Sales Rep. for specific promotion conditions • Prices subject to change without notice ©1996 LCH

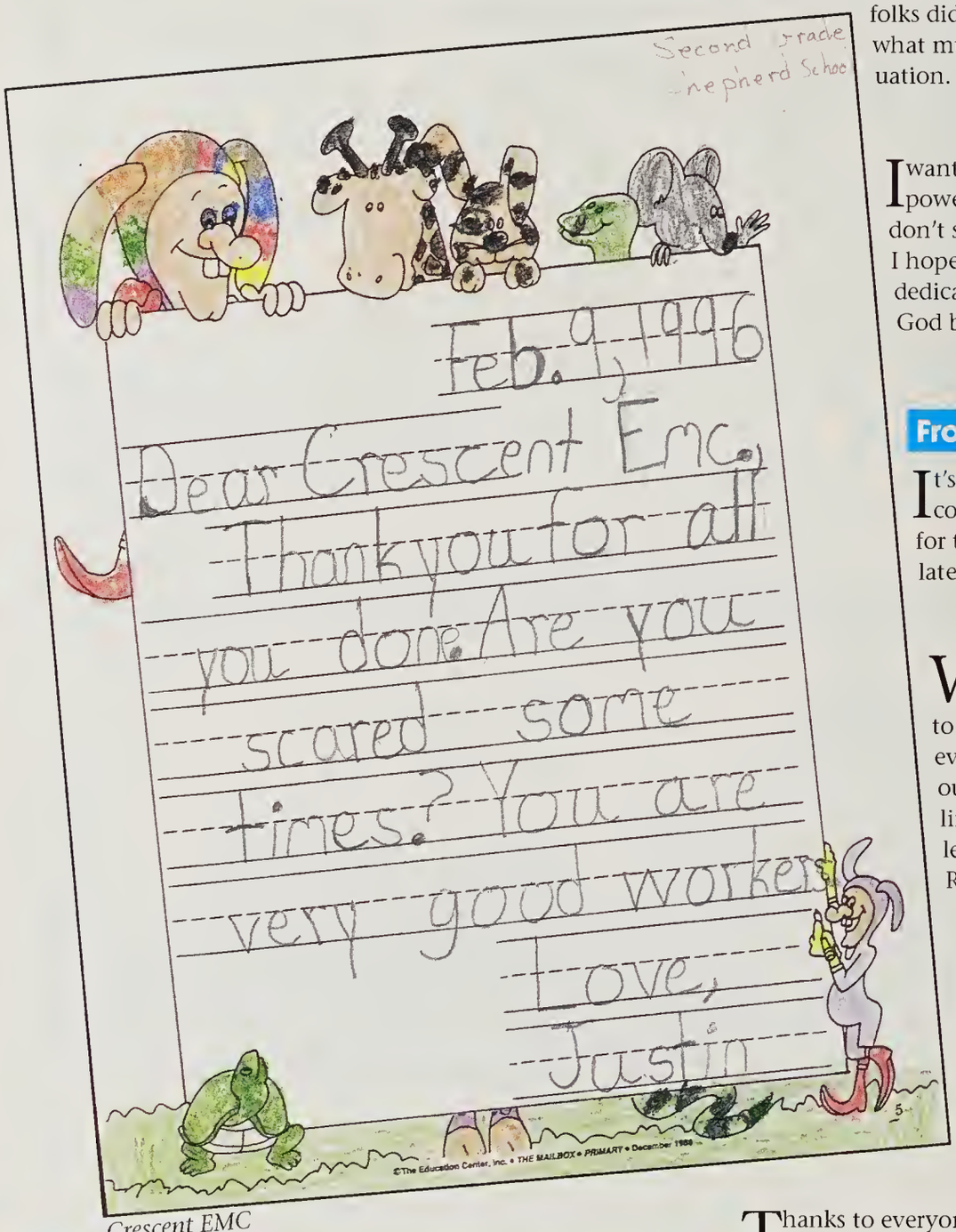
From Crescent Electric

We want to express our deepest appreciation and thanks to all your men who worked so hard in the dangerous circumstances of ice, trees, and severe cold to restore electricity for us and everyone else.

Frances and Justice Williams

Never before have we ever experienced so much dedication and helpfulness from so many people.

Clyde & Gladys Moose, Statesville



Crescent EMC

From Roanoke Electric

I'd like to express my thanks and appreciation for getting our lights on as early as you did. Elizabeth and I, 82 and 84, continue to try to live at home. I express my appreciation to the linemen who worked all during the night, climbing poles and risking their lives.

Hinton Britton, Pendleton

From Union EMC

On an evening fit for neither man nor beast, your repair crew had our power back on in a very reasonable period o time, which truly demonstrated an excellent job by management in maintenance scheduling and an outstanding job by th guys in the field.

Brooks Bloxom, Matthew

As in situations before, we are very proud of the way our power outage was handled so quickly and efficiently. Your folks did a great job of getting us back on line in what must have been a very trying and stressful sit uation.

Larry and Joyce Reed, Matthew

I want to thank all the men who worked on power lines to get mine back on. It was so cold, don't see how they could get their fingers to wor I hope no one got sick or hurt. They have to be dedicated to work in the temperatures we had. God bless them.

Georgia Clon

From Randolph EMC

It's great to know we have a hard working company like you to supply us power. Than for the phone call to make sure we had power later that night.

Bob and Betty McPherson, Liber

When I called your offices, the lady answering efficiently passed on my ca to the "power out" people. During the evening Randolph Electric trucks came dow our road and to our home to remove the tre limbs necessary to prevent any further prob lems. We feel very lucky to be a part of Randolph Electric Membership.

Jody Sharman, Stanl

I want to thank you for cutting back the trees this past summer. That expensive undertaking certainly kept my power on during our recent ice and snow storms. I was warm and comfortable thanks to the prior planning of your company.

Ann Morris Rankin, Asheb

Thanks to everyone who did so well in getting the power back on to Cambridge Apartments and other properties I handle. Randolph EMC always does a great job.

Ellen Howell, Asheb

Since 1986 when we moved to Seven Lakes we have had cou teous replies to any inquiry with your company. The men who restored our service under such cold and difficult situatio s are to be highly commended.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Riley, West E

From Blue Ridge Electric

When I called to report my outage, I was fortunate enough to actually be able to speak to a person. When I called, I was able to ask when my service will be restored. Even though I was not given an exact time, it was comforting to know that people were actually working on it.

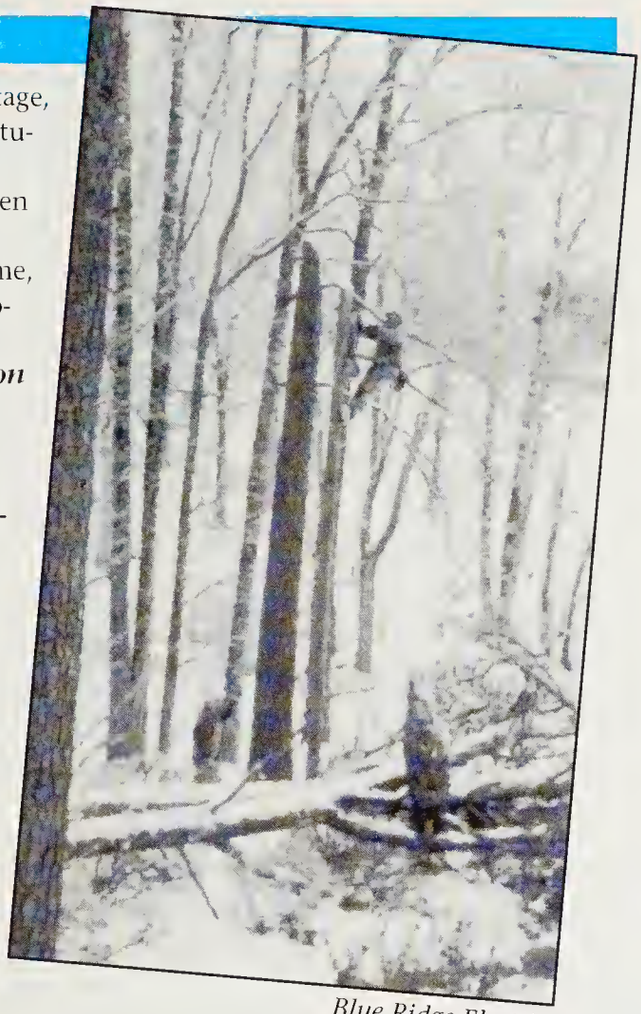
Heather N. Elswick, Ferguson

This is a note of heartfelt thanks for your successful efforts in maintaining the power in this community during the recent blizzard. It must have taken extraordinary vigilance and perseverance as well as expertise. Even more important is the caring that motivated these efforts.

Katherine Condon, Sparta

Being a disabled senior I have an electric bed. Those two days without power to elevate my bed only made me more appreciative of our Blue Ridge Electric workers.

Linda M. Martin, Granite Falls



Blue Ridge Electric

From Surry-Yadkin EMC

My prayers go out for the men that worked so hard
For people whose lights were out, also the lights in the yard.
My thoughts go out for the families at home
While the men had to leave them all alone.
I wanted to hand them something to drink and eat
Also something to warm their hands and their feet.
Their patience seemed unbelievable to me
They talked to each other so kind you see.
I thank God we still have some people so nice
While working so hard in this snow and ice.
At midnight we sat listening to them
As they checked hot lines and cut tree limbs.
I hope the customers are as patient also
Because it seems they have a long way to go.
Now as it is coming the setting of sun
I sure hope and pray their work will soon be done.

Irene Norman, Thurmond

Your telephone staff did answer your phones and I think gave the best answers that they could, considering the continuous destruction from the storm. When Mr. Mike Clarke and his three trucks with their crews arrived, they got our power restored in less than an hour. I was most impressed at their courtesy, their expertise and their dispatch.

Lanier Williams, Lewisville

Please thank your staff and crew for their outstanding assistance in restoring our power as a result of the recent ice storm. Particularly thank Bobby Throckmorton who came to our rescue and spotted the problem in moments. Happiness is heat!

Nancy H. Hobson, Lewisville

From Piedmont EMC

Thank you for your hard work and great attitude on Feb. 2. The lady who took our call was very kind and comforting. The next morning she called to make sure we still had power. In a world when we are all so busy we appreciate your dedication. I know you all dread this type of weather as we all do, but it's great to know we have people like you.

Cheryl (Rogers) Sykes & Jimmie L. Rogers, Mebane

You were wonderful in helping us keep power to our chicken houses. The communication at the service call center was outstanding!

Ronnie Fowler Family, Burlington

My mother is on oxygen and has non-electric back up. (Her non-electric nebulizer had dead batteries during this episode!) During the big snow storm we never lost electricity at all. During the more recent sleet storm, we did lose power, the house cooled off to 58°F, and my mom was OK for this length of time. The alacrity with which you always respond makes us even more secure.

The Mattocks Family, Chapel Hill

I would also like to thank the workers in the office that were swamped with telephone calls. The guy that I talked to was the most courteous gentleman I've ever spoken to.

Diane J. Wilkerson, Oxford

We have family members who live a few miles up the road that belong to another power company. Their electricity was off for 29 hours. When they called their company, they got a recording stating that all circuits were busy, and they never talked to a person. When they finally got power back, they never heard from the company at all. Thanks for a great job.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Smithers, Semora

I live on Smith Level Road in Chapel Hill and my electricity has not even flickered during this ice storm. I have thanked God and now I would like to thank you. You have done a wonderful job and I am really glad to be one of your customers.

Betty W. Layton, Chapel Hill

continued on page 10

From Halifax EMC

Thank you and your employees for restoring our electric power so efficiently during the snow and sleet storms of January and February 1996. We are grateful to those dedicated workers who laid their lives on the lines for us, the members of Halifax EMC.

Obern and Millie B. Davie, Halifax

During the recent ice storm, many of our friends and relatives were without power for extended periods. Out here in the country, however, you and your crews were able to provide power almost without interruption. We deeply appreciated the effective work you did and continue to do.

W. D. Bullock and William H. Whitaker, Enfield

We sincerely appreciate your Feb. 6 letter, Mr. Finney, thanking the members, but we should be thanking you and all of the folks at Halifax Electric involved in restoring our power during the recent storm. I have said before you folks accomplished the difficult at once, the impossible takes a little bit longer.

Artie F. Wright, Littleton

I work in a beauty shop (my own) and I know how demanding the public can be. I do appreciate each effort that has been made during recent ice and snow storms.

Judith Sammons, Norlina

I would like to commend all of the Halifax employees for keeping the electricity going during the past snow/ice storm: the persons who manned telephones, those who came from other work areas, folks who worked outside in subfreezing temperatures — each and every one of you!

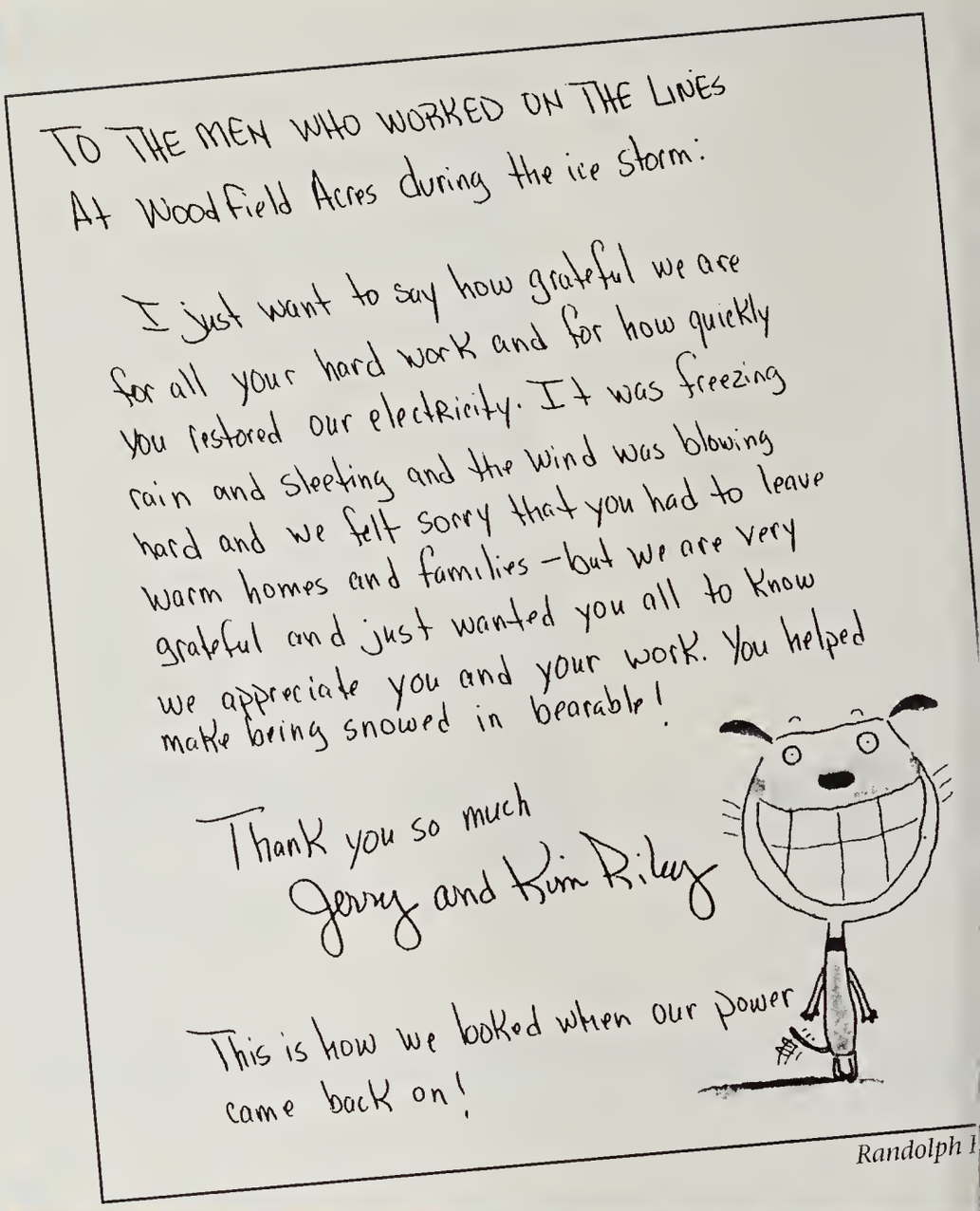
B. J. Bunnell, Church Hill

Thank you for the excellent job to all those who provided time and energy to restore our power. It is a job few of us would want or could do. In fact, we really can't do without you!

Sharon and Jim Hunter, Eaton's Ferry Estates

Just wanted to say "A Special Thank You" for the quick and good work rendered to us and all other families. The weather was so terribly cold. All the men I know sacrificed a lot to help.

Fred and Lucille Thompson, Macon


TO THE MEN WHO WORKED ON THE LINES
At Woodfield Acres during the ice storm:
I just want to say how grateful we are for all your hard work and for how quickly you restored our electricity. It was freezing rain and sleeting and the wind was blowing hard and we felt sorry that you had to leave warm homes and families – but we are very grateful and just wanted you all to know we appreciate you and your work. You helped make being snowed in bearable!
Thank you so much
Jerry and Kim Riley
This is how we looked when our power came back on!

Randolph I

From Wake Electric

My husband and I have been Wake Electric customers for over 25 years. Whenev we called to report power failures, there was never an occasion that we were no answered directly and courteously. At times we questioned our billings and we were always treated efficiently and politely. Their engineers have been helpful in advising about our heating and air conditioning system.

During the bad ice storm the first part of February I was alone in the house witho power and with a seriously ill husband who is dependent on medical equipment pov ered by electricity. The man at Wake Electric who took my call responded reassuringl to my fears. Fortunately, our power was restored within a couple of hours. Off and or throughout the evening and the next day I received calls from Wake Electric personn inquiring about me and my husband. The men who spoke with me expressed their care and concern and gave me the confidence to cope.

There is no way I can express my gratitude to these people who worked througho the night under difficult conditions yet found the time to call not once but several times. I am also thankful that, as Wake Electric customers, we have nearby, friendly people who care about the customers in their area rather than having to communica with personnel from another state.

Anne V. Scoggin, Louisbu

I know it was a very serious time and you had to work in very bad weather, but you hung in there and worked until you had all our lights back on. I know thanks seem so small in a time like this, but I really do appreciate all that you did for us.

Loy Bunn, Zebul

NEED TO PAY OFF BILLS?

Start Spring Off Right.

- No more bills
- Refinance to lower payments
- Home Improvements
- New Car

How Does Your Situation Compare?

Your Payments Now:*

Bill	Balance	Payment
2nd Mortgage	$14,500	$255.00
Auto Loan	$ 7,500	$310.00
MasterCard	$ 1,500	$ 85.00
Visa	$ 1,500	$ 75.00
TOTAL	$25,000	**$725.00**

Your Payments with a Bill Consolidation Loan from The Mortgage Outlet:*

Bill	Balance	Payment
Consolidation Loan	$25,000	**$268.50**

You Save: $ 456.50 / month
$5,478.00 / year

How Much Do **You** need?

(Larger and Smaller Loans Available)

Balance	Payment	Balance	Payment
$25,000	$273.32	$45,000	$488.13
$35,000	$380.73	$55,000	$595.52

* All payments based on 180 mo. rate 9.99%/10.89apr, subject to credit.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

- Self-Employed
- Unable to verify income
- Slow credit okay
- Manufactured/Double Wide Homes

Hours:
Mon.-Thurs.
7:30 am-7 pm

Friday
7:30 am-5 pm
Saturday
8:00 am-11 am

Professional Mortgage Services

THE MORTGAGE OUTLET, INC.

We make mortgages, not excuses.

Toll Free 1-800-365-9017

Apply by Phone

- Multi-State licensed lender

1220-D Kennestone Circle • Marietta, GA 30066

Competition comes to electric service

North Carolina's electric cooperatives have new flexibility to buy power in the wholesale market.

By Sharon O'Malley

There was a time not too long ago when consumers had no choice in selecting a long-distance telephone company. Then came deregulation.

Today, consumers may shop for long-distance service among dozens of companies and choose the one that offers them the best services and price.

Likewise, today's consumers buy their electricity from a single utility to which they are assigned. But that may change.

The electric utility industry is in the midst of a restructuring that began when Congress passed the National Energy Policy Act in 1992. The act essentially began the process of deregulating the electric industry. That process, some say, could eventually lead to more choices and lower prices for electricity consumers.

Shopping for an electric utility isn't likely to become a reality for most until well after the turn of the century, although one ambitious plan envisions California consumers choosing among utilities as early as 1998. But in preparation for the time when their customers are free to take their business elsewhere, utilities today are cutting the fat and stepping up service.

"We're working with our employees to be sure that we go the extra mile for our members so that when they do have a choice, they will remember."

— Gary Whitener
Rutherford EMC

And that means utilities are paying more attention to what their customers want and need, in an effort to win their loyalty.

Electric cooperatives—many of which are celebrating their 60th anniversaries this year and next—were created at a time when large power companies opted to skip over sparsely populated rural communities, turning on the lights only in cities where they could earn larger profits. North Carolina's 28 co-ops were formed by consumers, who borrowed money from the government and ran the utilities themselves. They are beholden to consumers rather than to stockholders, so they have traditionally rated high in customer service. That will give the co-ops an edge over competitors when consumers have a choice.

"We're working with our employees to be sure that we go the extra mile for our members so that when they do have a choice, they will remember," says Gary Whitener, general manager of Rutherford EMC in Forest City. "They will remember when the storm was and that Rutherford was there, trying to assist and getting our service restored as soon as possible."

For a consumer-owned electric cooperative, Whitener says, providing top-notch customer service comes as naturally as keeping the lights on.

"Our whole focus since day one is pro viding good service to our members," agrees Randy Brecheisen, general manager of Piedmont EMC in Hillsborough. "We do have good, strong relations. We'r in touch with the needs of our members more so than a lot of utilities are."

It's not yet clear how deregulation of the industry will affect electricity customers. Some analysts envision that the largest users—big industries—will use their size and buying power to negotiate low prices, while small residential users get stuck making up for it by paying higher rates. Others foresee groups of res dential users negotiating their own good prices for subdivisions or communities, the way group insurance plans do today.

Some predict that consumers will be bombarded with deals from a spate of brand-new power companies that will follow the lead of today's long-distance providers, offering discounts and rebates to customers who choose their service.

"I envision a time when you, too, wil be disturbed during dinner by a power company saying you can get a $25 rebat if you switch power companies," says Su Kelly, regulatory counsel for the Nationa Rural Electric Cooperative Association. "It's the same thing that's happening in telephone now."

Kelly says she's not sure that's a good thing. Long-distance rates, she points out, did drop following the early-1980s deregulation of that industry. But in some places, the cost of local telephone service went up at the same time.

And when the natural gas industry was deregulated, large industrial users sa significant savings when they were

llowed to shop around for better prices
om other companies. But their savings
ame at the expense of
esidential users, who
ere left paying more to
eat their homes because
eir providers lost their
iggest and best industri-
l customers to competi-
ors.

"Nobody really knows
hat the long-term
npact is for residential
itepayers," says Hope
obertson, president of
urrent Analysis, a
ockton, N.J., company
at researches competi-
on in the electric industry.

It's that uncertainty
at led the North
arolina Utilities Com-
ission in July to reject
industrial group's pro-
osal to investigate the possibility of
lowing consumers to shop around for
ectricity.

That notion—called retail wheeling by
ose in the utility industry—is prema-
re, said the North Carolina commis-
oners, who are taking a wait-and-see
proach to retail competition.

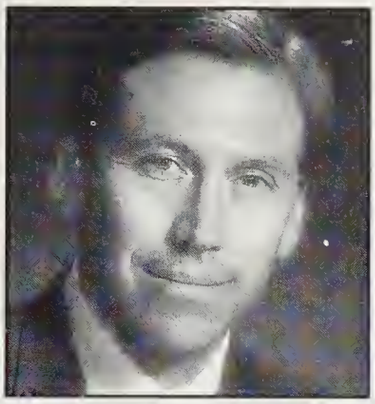
In a written decision, commissioners
id they would "monitor developments
other states" before deciding whether
allow retail competition in North
arolina.

Twenty-four other states have consid-
ed whether to allow utilities to compete
r retail customers, and just four oth-
s—Maryland, South Carolina,
nnsylvania and Washington—have
jected the idea for now. No state has
mpleted deregulation, although
alifornia, Texas and Wisconsin have
mpleted plans to phase it in over the
xt several years.

In the meantime, the National Energy
licy Act has opened the door to compe-
ion at the wholesale level—which
eans that some electric utilities may
w buy their power supply from new
urces. Traditionally, each utility could
y power only from suppliers within
eir regulated territories.

That means North Carolina's electric
operatives may eventually be able to
y power at prices lower than their tra-
ional suppliers charge today.

Shopping for electricity at the whole-
e level could mean that local utilities will pay less—and therefore charge less—for the power that they resell to their residential customers.



"We're in touch with the needs of our members more so than a lot of utilities are."

— Randy Brecheisen
Piedmont EMC

Members of one Nevada cooperative, which had no long-term contracts with power suppliers, paid an average of $135 less for electricity last year after their utility struck a deal for lower-cost power with a group of out-of-state utilities. Valley Electric Association in April 1995 slashed bills to residential customers by an average of $5.50 a month after it saved $2.7 million on wholesale power purchases. In December, it gave residential customers a credit on their electric bills for electricity they had used during 1995. The average credit was $85.70.

Next year, predicts Valley Electric Association General Manager Louis Holveck, sales will be up and power costs will be even lower.

Wholesale competition, confirms Kelly, applies "incredible downward pressure on power prices." She adds, "If the cost to the utility drops, the cost to you is going to drop."

Still, predicts Chuck Terrill, executive vice president of the North Carolina Electric Membership Corp., deregulation is going to take its time getting to the retail level.

"It's probably inevitable," he says, "but if it's like other industries, it's going to take a long time to shake out."

"Co-ops are on the job, looking out for our members," Terrill says. "We need to be an active player in the retail competition debate. Everyone needs to understand the pros and cons and structure a plan to benefit the consumer."

Writer Sharon O'Malley, of College Park, Md., examined changes in the electric utility industry in the March 1995 issue of Carolina Country.

THE ELECTRICALLY-ADJUSTABLE

FLEX-A-BED

WATCH TV, RELAX, READ, OR JUST SLEEP

CALL TOLL FREE FOR FREE FACTORY VIDEO
1-800-787-1337

Or write: **P.O. Box 568, Lafayette, GA 30728**

Focus

North Carolina news.

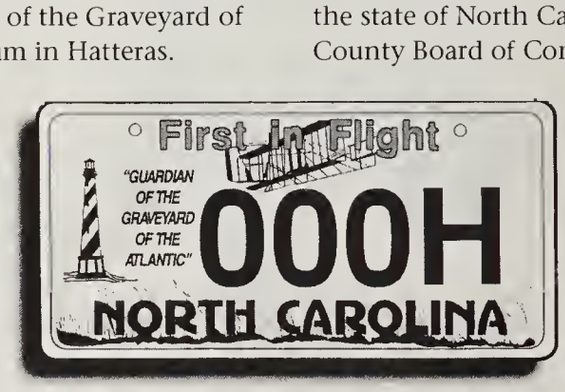
Asheville folk musician releases "Sing It Yourself"

Asheville folk singer Laura Boosinger has released her second album, "Sing It Yourself." The sing-along album, released by Native Ground Music, is a collection of old-time folk songs like "Angelina Baker," "Hush Little Baby" and "Froggy Went a Courtin'." The songs are accompanied by a variety of traditional folk instruments including a clawhammer banjo, fiddle, guitar, lap dulcimer and acoustic bass. Boosinger performs and teaches regularly across the southeast at schools, festivals and colleges. For more information, contact Native Ground Music at 109 Bell Rd., Asheville, NC 28805. Phone: (800) 752-2656.

Cape Hatteras lighthouse license plates "will be a reality"

The campaign to have the Cape Hatteras lighthouse on an official North Carolina motor vehicle plate is halfway to its goal, and "will be a reality," reports Helen Mills Wilson, administrative coordinator of the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras.

Of 300 paid reservations required, 146 had been registered by late February. People who placed those early orders have been patiently waiting for the plates and will have to wait only a short time longer.



The special tags have been approved by the state legislature. They cost $30 a year more than traditional plates, and the museum project will receive $20 from each plate sold. Applications must be filed with the $30 fee, and plates will be issued at their renewal times.

The museum itself is already a reality. Intended to preserve the seafaring heritage of the Outer Banks, the planning was led during the past 10 years by Hatteras Island residents Belinda Willis, Katie Oden and Geraldine Farrow.

A working partnership was signed at a ceremony last July among the museum board, the National Park Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who join sponsors from the state of North Carolina and the Dare County Board of Commissioners, as well as private donors. Joseph K. Schwarzer II was appointed executive director in September. Preparations are under way to build the 14,000-square-foot facility in Hatteras village, near the ferry docks to Hatteras Inlet.

State residents interested in obtaining a Cape Hatteras lighthouse license plate may request an application from the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum, P.O. Box 191, Hatteras, NC 27943. Phone: (919) 986-2995. Applications are also available at state offices of the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Other questions about plate renewal may be directed to the Special License Plate Unit at (919) 733-7510.

Bluegrass music is down home in North Carolina

Bluegrass music is as southern as corn pone and magnolia trees, but North Carolina claims the bluegrass roots.

Back in 1945, Earl Scruggs of Boiling Springs, noted for perfecting the three-fingered style of banjo-playing, took a job playing banjo for Bill Monroe, who would later be known as the father of bluegrass music. Scruggs went on to form his own band, the Foggy Mountain Boys, which became one of greatest bluegrass bands of all time. Scruggs is one in a long line of bluegrass greats to emerge from the Tar Heel State; others include Don Reno, Snuffy Jenkins, Doc Watson, Del McCoury and Bobby Hicks.

Lester Flatt, Earl Scruggs and the Foggy Mountain Boys.

Several music festivals are held each year to honor the contributions of North Carolina artists and to keep the genre alive and well. The following are several events being held across the state this spring and summer:

- Ninth Annual Merle Fest '96, April 25-28, Wilkes Community College, Wilkesboro, (910) 838-6261.
- Bass Mountain Music Park Memorial Day Festival, May 23-26, Burlington, (910) 228-7344.
- Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver's Family Style Bluegrass Festival, July 11-14, Denton, (704) 252-12
- 14th annual Cherokee Bluegrass Festival, August 22-24, Happy Holiday Campground, Cherokee, (706) 864-72

For more information, contact the International Bluegrass Music Association regional representatives Jim and B.J. Miller at (919) 598-9802.

New cookbook mixes food and history

Columbus County residents have produced a second volume of local recipes with a side of county history. The "Columbus County Cookbook II" combines a variety of recipes such as Chicken and Wild Rice Casserole, Fried Catfish and Chocolate Pound Cake with local vignettes on Columbus County sports, the Starlite Drive-In Theater and the Powell Tobacco Warehouse. The cookbook also contains helpful home and gardening hints.

The cookbook is available for $8 plus $3 shipping and handling. For more information on this title or the first Columbus County Cookbook, contact: Dana Highsmith, 6211-124 Wrightsville Ave., Wilmington, NC 28403.

Every 2 Minutes We Make A Loan.

LET'S MAKE THE NEXT ONE YOURS.

Please call 1-800-395-3053 or stop by any UCB office.

The Personal Touch. Easy As UCB.

UNITED CAROLINA BANK

Text telephone number for the hearing impaired, 1-800-876-6545.
©1996 United Carolina Bank. Member FDIC.

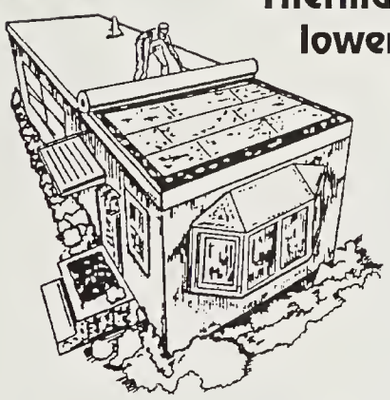
EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

As Seen On TV

The Insulated Mobile Home Roofing System

As Seen On TV

Thermal Tech, the affordable roof system that lowers power bills in winter and summer.



$100 Rebate

Call today for a FREE Roof Inspection and Estimate

THERMAL TECH ROOFING
1-800-849-5715

Decide for Yourself

Old Metal Roof	vs.	New Thermal Tech
☐ Expensive heat escapes thru the roof		☐ Thick insulation retains heat in your home
☐ Condensation forms in the attic		☐ No attic condensation
☐ Attic condensation freezes there and in walls		☐ No condensation forms
☐ Furnace or heaters usually run all day and night		☐ Heat source runs only as needed
☐ Leaks let water ruin ceiling, walls and floors		☐ No leaks
☐ Seal, paint, repair every year		☐ Maintenance-free and guaranteed lifetime warranty
☐ Rumbles in winter wind		☐ Quiet in the worst storms
☐ Deteriorates annually		☐ Adds to the value of your home

by Susie Kornegay

Pickle Partners

Pucker up and practice your pickle puns. The 10th annual North Carolina Pickle Festival is coming April 26 and 27.

Held in Mount Olive and Faison, in eastern North Carolina, the festival showcases the area's best-known product.

The weekend is packed with activities including concerts, a parade, plane rides, parachute jumps and a classic and antique car show. Children's activities include face painting, pickle photos and a petting zoo. There are food and beverage vendors and, of course, free pickle sampling.

The main sponsors of the event are the Mount Olive Pickle Company, located in Mount Olive, and Charles F. Cates and Sons Pickles, in Faison, seven miles away. The companies are the only remaining pickle producers in North Carolina, and both are household names throughout the Southeast.

How did two successful pickle packers end up so close together?

"This is the best place for produce production," says Bill Hennessee, president of Cates. "In the old days, it was easier to bring the plant to the produce than the produce to the plant."

Charles F. Cates and Sons actually began in Alamance County in the Piedmont region of North Carolina. Cates' grandmother, Elizabeth Paris Bradshaw, fondly known as "Miss Bettie," began making pickles from cucumbers on her farm to give as gifts for her friends. Miss Bettie's friends wanted more pickles and were willing to pay for them, so she and her grandson packed her pickles into barrels and sold them in a nearby town. The business expanded and more space was needed, so the decision was made in 1929 to move Cates to Duplin County. Today, Cates purchases its cucumbers from 21 surrounding counties as well as from farmers in Michigan, Texas, Ohio and even Mexico, to ensure year-round production.

The Cates plant in Faison.

Cates was purchased by Dean Foods in 1989 and is a division of Dean Pickle & Specialty Products Co. In addition to their own label, Cates packages a large amount of private label pickle products.

Across the county line in southern Wayne County lies Mount Olive Pickle Company, begun in 1926 by a group of local businessmen who wanted to come up with a profitable solution to a surplus of cucumbers. The businessmen decided to buy tanks in which to

The Mount Olive plant in Mount Olive.

store the cukes in brine stock, and later sell the stock to pickle producers. Unfortunately, no one was interested in purchasing the brine stock, so these businessmen decided to pack their own pickles. Today, Mount Olive pickles is the largest independent pickle company in the country and the second best-selling brand of shelf-stable pickles in the country, number one in the Southeast.

Each company has its own personality. Cates, once famous for its pink tractor-trailer trucks, now sports the Dean Food logo on its trucks. A modest office building holds a small reception area with some old Dean Foods annual reports on the coffee tables. Hennessee's cozy office reflects his low-key style. A vase holding roses grown by his wife sits on his desk. He speaks with pride of the contribution Cates has made to its community.

tes trucks now show the Dean Food logo.

"The water works was built in Faison because Cates needed water," he says. "The phone system came to Faison because Cates needed a phone."

Hennessee emphasizes the employment dollars Cates brings to the community, not just for its full-time employees, but also by giving part-time jobs during the summer "green season" to young people working their way through school.

The Mount Olive Pickle Company's processing plant and office is on the corner of Cucumber and Vine, indicating that this is a company that likes to have fun with its product. Mount Olive Pickle's reception area boasts pickle gift baskets, pickle periodicals, even a pickle telephone. President Bill Bryan's office holds shelves of literature about the pickle, from pickle history to pickle processing information to pickle poetry. And to keep those Mount Olive Pickles ever in sight, there are kitchen magnets, bookmarks, and scratch-and-sniff stickers (yes, they really smell like dill pickles).

The pickle tasting booth at the April festival.

Mount Olive Pickles is a privately held company whose shareholders and board of directors are mostly local. The company is an integral part of this community. Bryan says that supporting the Mount Olive community is "a matter of being a good citizen."

"The company and the community share the same name," he says. "The company values its connection to the community, and the town has enjoyed the popularity of our products."

The festival parade.

Mount Olive Pickle Company enjoys employee longevity and a good work ethic from its workers because "they have a sense that this is their company," says Bryan. The company gives back to its employees through a profit-sharing plan begun in the 1940s, one of the first in the country.

Pickle promotion

With two successful pickle companies so close together, you'd think there must be major competition, industrial espionage, or at least some insult trading. Hennessee insists there's a cooperative relationship between the companies "throughout everything we do up to the sale of the product."

Bryan agrees. "Where we are competitive is in the marketplace. We both realize that pickle processors also compete with other food manufacturers. People need to be thinking pickles."

Mount Olive trucks also look good in spring.

Both presidents realize that the companies can promote their product and the region by working together in that regard. The companies are active in Pickle Packers International, the industry's trade association. And both support the Wayne and Duplin County schools and Mount Olive College, a four-year Free Will Baptist college. For more information on the North Carolina Pickle Festival, call the Mount Olive Area Chamber of Commerce: (919) 658-3113.

Susie Kornegay is a freelance writer in Charlotte.

Journal

by Owen Bishop

Author says preparing the list is tough, but it can help us find "breathing space" in a sped-up society.

My lifetime to-do list: still a work-in-progress

If you've tried to sort out your lifetime priorities, as described by author/columnist Jeff Davidson in the January "Journal," I hope you've made better progress than I have. I'm still stuck on Step 1 of his seven-step strategy for finding time to achieve long-neglected goals.

Step 1 calls for preparing a sort of lifetime to-do list of things you still want to accomplish in life. Then, Davidson advises, you can use the list to begin focusing on what's most important to you personally and professionally. In Steps 2 through 6 you simply rethink and revise the original list, whittling it down to a manageable size.

By the time you get to Step 7, you should have a list reflecting important goals you're ready to pursue — goals you've consciously assigned a priority in your lifetime plan. At that point, it'll be time to get on with your program.

I had no trouble getting started. Several items were ready for the list long before I began writing:

- Tour Ireland.
- Visit friends in Southern California and drive up the coast to San Francisco.
- See New England's spectacular fall colors.

(Clearly, our travel agent is going to love this list!)

Then there were several home improvement projects:

- Hire a contractor to remodel the kitchen.
- Put up new wallpaper in the downstairs bathroom.
- Have an expert prepare a landscape plan for the yard, spelling out a step-by-step approach even I can follow.
- Clean out the basement and attic, and organize the junk we just can't make ourselves throw out.

Other items on the list are:

- Watch all those dusty videotaped movies and TV specials I didn't want to miss when they were broadcast but have never found time to replay.
- Crank up the stereo turntable to make tapes of my favorite old records (which I may never find until I clean out the basement!).
- Read Carl Sandburg's six-volume biography of Abe Lincoln. (This had been in the back of my mind for years, but it has taken on more urgency since my wife gave me a handsome edition of the set as a birthday gift last year.)

That's only 10 items, but I can already see that it would be helpful if I had a way of organizing them in terms of cost and demands on my time. So, I may try to handle this the way those travel guidebooks rate restaurants and hotels. The number of dollar signs ($) assigned to each item would indicate how costly it would be. And the number of hourglasses (⧗) would indicate how much time it should take. The kitchen project would be rated: $$$$$$/⧗⧗⧗. But reading Sandburg on Lincoln would get this kind rating: Zero $ / ⧗⧗⧗⧗⧗⧗.

If you've come up with another method, let me know. I need all the help I can get on this work-in-progress.

When I got bogged down on the list, I decid to talk with Davidson about his ideas, which he'd outlined in a national publication on mar agement. After summarizing them for "Journal I'd learned that he makes his home in Chapel Hill when he isn't traveling to speaking engage ments or book-signings.

He acknowledged that arriving at Step 7 is never an easy task because the pace of today's society offers people such a staggering array of choices —so many, in fact, that we can become overwhelmed by them.

"I was struck by this when I saw an ad for je beans in an airline magazine," Davidson recall "You could order *48 different flavors*!"

This is one example of the kinds of choices that are available to us at home and at work in the 1990s —choices we wouldn't have faced ju a few decades ago, he said.

If we were to move our current jobs and fan ly situations back to 1956, most of us would fe immediate relief from the pressure we feel now We'd have fewer choices, no information explo sion, no ever-present media coverage of events throughout the world, no flood of paper to co with routinely.

Davidson said too much paper, too much media coverage, too much information and to many choices have combined to become a "pr scription for frenzy" for most of us.

"For example, in 1990, the world produced more information in 24 hours than anyone ca take in over an entire lifetime. Now we're pro- ducing that much information every hour. Th Harvard University library subscribes to 160,0 periodicals. There's no way anyone can keep u with it all!"

The only effective way of dealing with all these pressures is to recognize that it's futile to try to keep up. Instead, we ought to seek "brea ing space" to concentrate on what's most imp tant to us.

"We can also try to pick our spots for the future — to say where we'd like to be on certai fronts when we arrive at those spots," Davidso said.

That's where his seven-step strategy can hel The hard part is getting beyond Step 1.

Davidson's ideas are detailed in his 1990 book, "Breathing Space: Living and Working a Comfortable Pace in a Sped-Up Society." Copi are available from the author for $12.85 each, including tax and shipping charges. Send orde to 2417 Honeysuckle Road, 2-A, Chapel Hill, N 27514-6819.

Making Cents of Your Electric Bill

by James Dulley

Are they energy–efficient, too?

Micro-filtration, allergy-safe vacuum cleaners

I use a micro-filtration allergy-safe vacuum cleaner in my own home because I am allergic to dust, mold and cat dander. The motors are extra powerful and draw up to nine amperes of electricity. Some models have variable power settings to reduce electricity usage when maximum power is not needed.

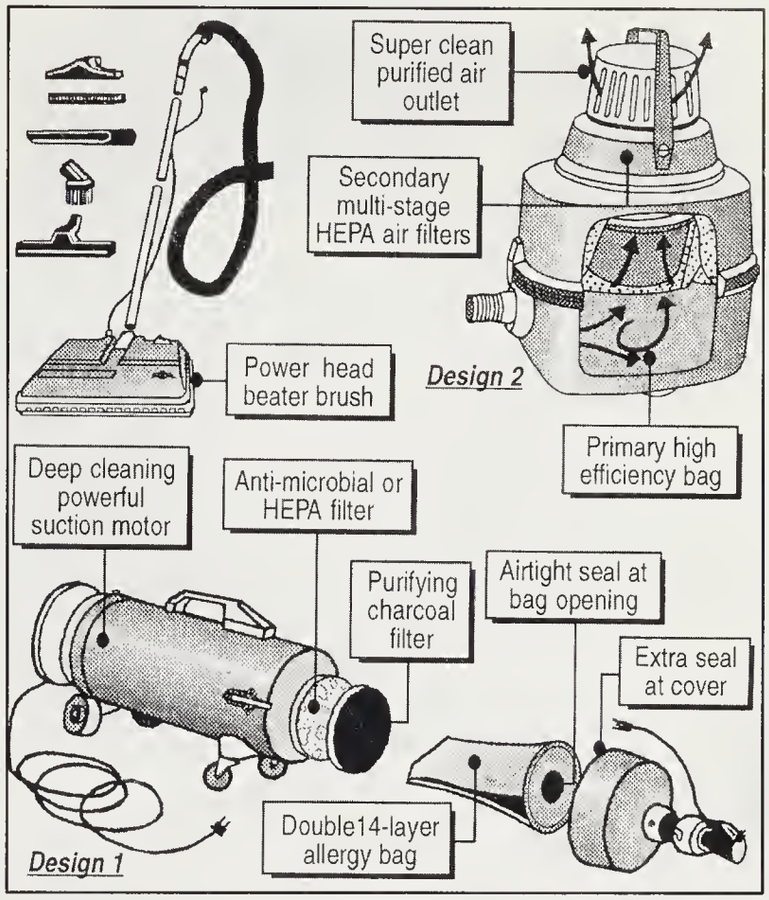
Although these powerful motors use a little more electricity than ordinary vacuum cleaners, you'll have to run them less often because they clean so much better. Over an entire year, you will use much less electricity than you usually use with conventional vacuums.

When I first used my new one, it deep cleaned so well that the bag was full in one week. With the special design and seals, dust does not leak back out of the vacuum into the room. There is no "just vacuumed" smell.

True micro-filtration, allergy-safe vacuum cleaners have more than just a better bag. The best ones have multilayer allergy bags, multistage, high efficiency (HEPA)/carbon filters and extra airtight seals to eliminate leaks.

Advertised "peak horsepower" ratings are often just marketing hype. To actually compare deep cleaning power of various vacuum cleaners, check the suction (water lift in inches) and the volume of air flow (cubic feet per minute - cfm).

The most powerful allergy vacuums have a suction above 80 inches and an air flow of more than 100 cfm. Many allergy-safe vacuum cleaners use a canister design with a power nozzle (beater bar and brush) for carpeting. There are also several micro-filtration uprights and a wet/dry model.



Several designs of micro-filtration are effective. One design uses double 14-layer cellulose filter bags, a charcoal filter, and a final anti-microbial (kills germs, molds, etc.) or HEPA filter (used in hospital operating rooms). The air blowing out of these vacuums is super clean.

The internal design affects the motion of the air inside and its cleaning effectiveness. A rapidly spinning (cyclonic) flow of dirty air inside the vacuum helps to separate the dirt particles from the air stream. Cyclonic flow also forces the dirt and allergen particles to hit the filter bag pores at an angle. This makes it more effective at trapping them inside. Several models have as many as 3,500 tiny air holes in the inner metal canister to utilize the entire bag surface for micro-filtering.

Write for Utility Bills Update No. 820 showing a buyer's guide of nine micro-filtration allergy vacuum cleaners (canister and upright), listing cleaning power (water lift and air flow), filter types, prices and a common allergen size chart. Please include $2 and a business-size SASE.

Send it to James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244.

Copyright ©1996 by James Dulley, an energy expert and syndicated columnist in Cincinnati.

THERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO PITCH IN THAT'S EASIER THAN RINSING BOTTLES, CRUSHING CANS AND TYING UP NEWSPAPERS.

Signing up for Peak Load Management is quite a bit easier than recycling. But it's probably the most important thing you'll ever do for the environment. And all it takes is a call to your electric co-op.

During peak demand for electricity, we'll interrupt power to your central air

conditioner or heat pump and electric water heater, for brief periods. You won't be inconvenienced.

In fact, you probably won't even know when it happens. (Just ask your friends who are already on the program.)

By managing peak demand, we can lessen the need for expensive power plants and help conserve our natural resources.

If you're concerned about the environment, this is real easy. So please give us a call.

PEAK LOAD MANAGEMENT. ANOTHER WAY TO PITCH IN.

CAROLINA Electric Cooperatives

An Important Announcement for North Carolina Homeowners With Equity . . .

What would you do with an extra $300 to $1000 per month?

How to Get a Fast Mortgage Loan to Pay Off All Your Bills***

(Even if You've Been Turned Down by a Bank or Mortgage Company)

Franklin, North Carolina - Ray and Becky were frustrated. They'd bought the house 12 years ago and it was 5 years old when they moved in. Becky laughed out loud when she thought back to that time. Back then it seemed so big and beautiful. But now, 12 years and 3 kids later the house felt small and run down. The house needed a new roof and her two youngest girls, Emily and Katie, were doubling up in the small 10 by 12 bedroom.

Five years ago, Ray and Becky had a contractor come and talk to them about a new addition. Becky remembered how excited she and Ray both were. They even paid to have the plans drawn up. But that was a year before Ray lost his job at the plant. She poured herself another cup of coffee and recalled how depressed they both were. It was over a year before he got another job. And during that time they got behind on everything.

No Easter Dresses

They were so strapped for money in spring, they couldn't even afford new dresses for Emily and Katie for Easter. Sure they finally caught it all up when Ray went back to work, but it took them two years and by that time it had hurt their previously perfect credit record, it was a vicious cycle. You know, getting paid on Friday, sitting down on Saturday to pay bills and running out of money before all the bills were paid.

"I Hit A Brick Wall!"

After they got all caught up they tried again to borrow the money for the addition. First they got turned down by the local bank then a mortgage company in town rejected them. They just kept hitting the same brick wall. Even though Ray had gone back to work in another carpet mill making MORE money, the late payments that showed up on his credit reports scared the local banks and mortgage companies away. Ray felt like he was working JUST to pay his monthly bills and doing nothing for himself or Becky and the kids. Then he ran into Harvest Mortgage Company. Harvest helped him get a loan to pay off all his bills and consolidate everything into one single payment that was $358 lower than he had been making. That saved him a whopping $4296 per year TAX FREE. In the first year, that was enough money to close in the back porch AND enough left over for new bikes for the kids.

***Subject to Qualification*

Harvest Can Get Loans From Loan Sources You Don't Even Know Exist!

> "When we needed money to consolidate our debts and pay off some old bills, Harvest Mortgage was there when we needed them. We ended up paying off all our bills and rolling them all into one single payment. After we did, our total monthly payments dropped by almost $400 per month. This has reduced our stress which has made our lives much better."
>
> *Billy and Judy S.*
> *Columbus*

Recent Loans Include:

- ✔ A $78,000 loan to a couple in Sugar Grove, North Carolina that saved them $800 per month in payments. They will save over $29,000 in the next 3 years.
- ✔ A $95,000 loan to a homeowner in Western North Carolina who was on permanent disability .
- ✔ A $35,000 loan to a homeowner near Asheville to complete construction of his home (The borrower couldn't verify his income with tax returns.)
- ✔ A $95,000 loan that consolidated the homeowner's mortgage and all the rest of his bills into one monthly payment that saved him over $8,100 per year and a whopping $124,000 over the loan period.

Home Equity Is the Key

Harvest officials report that the single most important key to their ability to find a loan is whether or not you have enough equity in the property. "Say you have a home valued at $80,000 with no more than $48,000 in total mortgage, including any 1st and 2nd mortgages. Then you are a good candidate for one of the many loan programs we offer," says Senior Loan officer Janet Kivi in an interview last week. "In other words, "says Kivi," if you have a minimum of 20% equity or more there's a good chance we can help you either save a lot of money every month by combining old bills and your old mortgage into one newer and much lower payment. Or we can help you get cash money out of your home or investment property to use to buy a vacation house, start a business, whatever."

No Ivory Towers

"When you apply for a loan at Harvest Mortgage, your loan request is reviewed and decided upon by the people right in our offices," says one Harvest executive. He added, "Since we are direct lenders, we don't send the information to some guys off somewhere in New York or California. We review and approve loans right here in town locally."

Fast Approval and Closing

That means we can get your loan closed in a matter of days, and you never have to go out of your living room until you're ready to close."

Loans for Purchase or Refinance

Harvest Mortgage officials report that whether you are buying or refinancing a house, or just looking to consolidate some bills or get cash out of your property, they have credit programs that give you the money you're looking for. Different loan programs include:

- ✔ Loans to Borrowers with good credit with most competitive rates in the country. These are available for purchasing a new home or refinancing.
- ✔ Loans to borrowers with a lot of equity homeowners who have slow credit or have even been bankrupt.
- ✔ Cash out loans for investment property with a lot of equity.
- ✔ Loans for borrowers who want to do additions or remodel their homes.

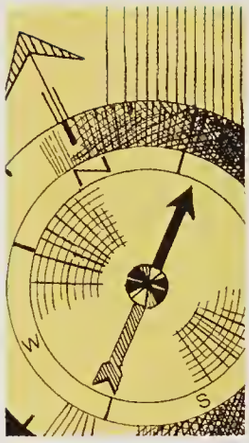
Check This Out for Free

To see how much money you may be able to get and exactly how much your payments would be, you can check it out by just picking up the phone and calling us. Be sure to ask for Carolyn Reed at **1-800-972-LEND (5363)**. Or for a FREE report on how Harvest Mortgage can work for you, call toll-free **1-800-876-3406** for a 24-hour recorded message. All of this doesn't cost you a dime, so you owe it to yourself to find out for yourself. Don't put this off. Do it now while you're thinking about it! You've got nothing to lose and everything to gain!

Harvest Mortgage Company Inc.
Mortgage Bankers
North Carolina Licensed Lender

1-800-972-LEND
(5363)

Here, There and Everywhere



April 6 – May 5.

Tulip Festival

April 6-28, Reidsville
Thousands of tulips along with azaleas, daffodils and dogwoods. Guided garden tours. $10 for adults, $9 for seniors, $5 ages 6-18. At Chinqua-Penn Plantation. Call (910) 349-4576.

The Message of Easter

Through April 8, Williamston
Outdoor drama nightly at 8:15 at the Piney Grove Outdoor Theater. Admission is free; early arrival encouraged. Call (919) 792-4977.

The Herring Festival

April 8, Jamesville
Arts, crafts, food and entertainment. Call (919) 792-5006.

House and Garden Tour

April 10, Southern Pines
Six houses and gardens ranging from Georgian to contemporary. $15. Call (910) 692-2106.

Homes Tour

April 12-13, New Bern
Features the formal gardens of Tryon Palace plus historic homes, churches and other landmarks within the downtown historic district. Tickets are $12.50; $15 on tour days. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (919) 638-8558.

Spring Garden Tour

April 13, Chapel Hill
Selected gardens in historic districts and other areas of Chapel Hill will be open for public view from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain date is April 14. Tickets are $10; $12 on tour day; $5 for children under 12. Call (919) 542-5556.

Dutch Festival

April 13, Terra Ceia
6th annual festival of Dutch traditions with flower farm tours, Dutch lunch, Delft items, games, baked goods and music. In Terra Ceia, settled by Dutch families in the 1920s and 1930s, east of Washington, N.C. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., rain or shine. Call (919) 935-5032.

Virginia Dare Homestead

April 13, Beaufort County
On-site living history demonstrations of a Beaufort County homestead in the 1800s. On N.C. Highway 32 between Washington and Plymouth. Call (919) 927-3172.

Frisco Woods Wind Fest

April 13-14, Frisco
On-water windsurfing demos, pig roast, good company and lots of wind. Camping available. Call (919) 995-5208.

Historical Railways

April 13-20, Asheville
The Asheville chapter of the National Railway Historical Society celebrates its 10th anniversary. Features special events from a rummage sale to a Great Smokey Mountains Railway excursion. Call (704) 252-6094.

N.C. Symphony

April 16, Williamston
Public performance at 8 p.m. in the Martin County Auditorium on the campus of Williamston High School. Call (919) 792-1575.

Uniquely Downtown Arts

April 17, Salisbury
Celebration of local graphic art, instrumental music, sculpture, crafts, singing, dancing, drama, folk art, railroad memorabilia, coin show and antique auto display. Call (704) 637-7814.

Home & Garden Tour

April 18-21, Charlotte
Proceeds benefit Mint Museum of Art programs. Tickets are $10; $12 on tour days. Call (704) 846-6844.

Songs and Stories

April 19, Beaufort
Concert of sea chanties by Irish-born recording artist Tom Lewis. From 8 to 10 p.m. Admission $8. At the N.C. Maritime Museum. Call (919) 728-7317.

Civil War Conference

April 19-21, Fayetteville
Sessions covering discussions of Generals Johnston and Sherman, the role of newspaper, the growth of photography, the African American community and Civil War medicine. Keynote speaker is Kent Masterson Brown, president of the Perryfield Battlefield Association. Also features tours of Bentonville Battleground and Averasboro Battleground. Call (919) 515-3184.

Southern Ideal Home Show

April 19-21, Charlotte
Ideas, products and information for homeowners, potential homeowners and do-it-yourselfers for building, remodeling and decorating. Plus "how-to" clinics and money-saving show specials. At the Charlotte Merchandise Mart. Call (704) 376-6594.

Haliwa-Saponi Tribe

April 19-21, Hollister
31st annual Pow-Wow. Call (919 586-4017.

Remodel Raleigh

April 19-21, Raleigh
For the homeowner ready to plunge into a major remodeling project or minor repair. Products supplies, services, information and advice. At the N.C. State Fairgrounds. Call (704) 376-6594

Tour of Historic Sites

April 20, Williamston
Bus tour of historic sites. Buses leave from the old county courthouse a 9:30 a.m. Lunch and supper included in admission price. Call (800 776-8566.

Spring Kiln Openings

April 20-21, Seagrove
Over 50 potteries in a 15-mil radius have coordinated efforts t open their kilns for this specia weekend. Seagrove is located o U.S. highway 220 approximatel 46 miles south of Greensboro. Ca (910) 873-7304.

Loch Norman Games

April 20-21, Huntersville
Games dating back to the mid 1000s in the Scottish tradition. Th Ceilidh, dancing, Tartan 4-ball tou nament, music, competitions an workshops, demonstrations an performances. At Rural Hill. Ca Nina Wallace, (704) 875-3113.

Doll Show & Sale

April 20, Concord
At the National Guard Armory 1 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by th Golden Dolls Doll Club. $2. Ca (704) 436-6451.

Amish Quilt & Craft Sale

April 19-20, Raleigh
Over 300 Amish quilts, wall hangings, pillows, dolls, toys, furniture, artwork, rugs, books and more from the Amish and other craftspeople of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. At the N.C. State Fairgrounds. Free. Call (717) 786-8487.

Spring Festival

April 20, Union Grove
Crafts, plants, antique cars and tractors, live entertainment and a parade. Call (704) 539-4976.

Dogwood Festival

April 20-21, Lake Lure
Flea market, crafts, 5K Fun Run, health fair, music, parade and more. At locations in Bat Cave, Chimney Rock, Gerton and Lake Lure. Call (704) 625-9258.

Heroic Painting

Through April 21, Winston-Salem
An exhibition devoted to the concept of heroism at SECCA. Call (919) 725-1904.

Confederate Memorial Day ceremony

April 21, Charlotte
Parade of reenactor companies of infantry, cavalry, horse-drawn artillery and pipers. Period dress, prominent speakers and flowers with flags at the grave sites at Elmwood Cemetery. Call (704) 332-8506.

N.C. Pickle Festival

April 26-27; Faison, Mt. Olive
10th annual festival of pickles, parades, plane rides, concerts, rides, games and lots of food. Concert in the park in Faison 8 p.m. Friday featuring Super Grit Cowboy Band. Activities begin Saturday at 10 a.m.

Gem, Jewelry & Minerals

April 26-28, Charlotte
28th annual show and sale by the Charlotte Gem and Mineral Club. At the Metrolina Expo Center. Admission is $3, students $1.50, under 12 free. For information write Lyle Walter, 3324 Tracelake Drive, Matthews, N.C. 28105.

Doll Show and Sale

April 27, Roanoke Rapids
Admission is $3. At the Holiday Inn, 10 – 4. Call (919) 826-5483.

Fort Dobbs Encampment

April 27-28, Statesville
Annual encampment at the site of North Carolina's only French-Indian war fort. Demonstrations of 18th century firearms and domestic skills. Call (704) 873-5866.

Spring Festival

April 27, Kelly
Annual festival. Parade begins at 11 a.m. Kelly is located on N.C. Highway 53 south of White Lake.

Mopar's at the Rock

April 27, Rockingham
Mopar's only show. Drag racing and vendors at Rockingham Dragway. Call (704) 435-6198.

Homes and Gardens Tour

April 27, Oriental
Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are $10. Call (919) 249-2335.

Shackleford Island Tour

April 30, Beaufort
Boat excursion to Cape Lookout National Seashore highlights barrier island ecology, history and beach combing. Good physical condition required for 3-4 miles of walking. $15. Call the N.C. Maritime Museum, (919) 728-7317.

Tour-De-Pets

May 4, Shelby
Metric Century bike ride to benefit the Cleveland County Humane Society. Registration is $20. Call (704) 435-6699.

Southmont Craft Show

May 4, Southmont
Handmade crafts, food and door prizes. Hours are 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Southmont Civic Center. Call (704) 798-3537.

Folk Festival

May 4-5, Wentworth
Music, food, arts, crafts, children's area, animals, historical exhibits and demonstrations. On the campus of Rockingham Community College. Call (910) 342-4099.

Deadlines for submitting notices

June issue	April 25
July issue	May 25
August issue	June 25

We welcome photos and illustrations of coming events. Send notices to Calendar, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

We've Got Mobile Home Owners Covered.

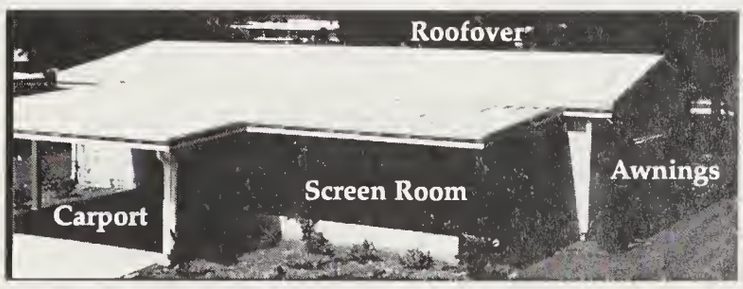
Royal Home Improvement customers know what a new Royal Roofover means.

No More:
- Leaky roof
- Recoating your roof
- High energy bills
- Roof rumble

Instead You'll Have:
- Permanent roof
- Tripleseal protection
- Lower energy bills
- 25 year warranty
- Added value of home
- No more roof rumble
- All aluminum roof
- 100% financing
- Free estimates
- Shop at home service
- Single or double wide

Southeast's Largest Royal Roofover Dealer

FREE
8 x 10 Patio Cover
with installed roofover
A $400 value
(prior sales excluded)



Royal
Home Improvements, Inc.
Serving the entire Southeast

(800) 462-8039
100% Financing • Free Estimates
Shop at Home Service

Hank's Gardening Guide

by Hank Smith

Much of the success of the summer garden and lawn depends upon what is done this month. Groom spring-flowering shrubs and bulbs, give attention to perennials, repair winter storm damage, and get seeds and plants into the ground.

Sow seed outdoors when maple leaves are unfolding.

Roses

If not already planted, get new rose bushes in the ground before new tender growth begins to appear. Continue to spray at weekly intervals to prevent blackspot, a destructive fungus disease. Also, keep water off leaves to discourage powdery mildew.

Vines

Plant climbers where they are needed to shade a large sunny area or to add a decorative touch to an otherwise conspicuous mailbox post. Consider such vines as clematis or evergreen caroline jessamine for the mailbox. Use a climbing rose or wisteria for larger structures. A patio or terrace can be made more inviting and useful in the summer if shaded by a climbing vine supported on an overhead arbor or lattice. Using a deciduous vine will allow the winter sun to reach the sitting area beneath.

Pruning

As new tender growth begins to appear on trees and shrubs, you may notice the damage caused by winter ice and winds. Cut back dead and damaged branches to healthy wood. Give weakened plants a boost by applying fertilizer beneath the branch spread and watering it in.

Perennials

Now's a better time than midsummer to start perennials from seed.Young plants will have more time to grow and strengthen in order to go through next winter. This will result in more and better blooms when they flower next year. Sow seed in shallow boxes or flats containing a mixture of ⅓ loam, ⅓ peat moss and ⅓ sand. Keep the soil damp. When the first pair of true leaves are well out, transplant to individual pots or to wider spacing in flats. Plants should be large enough to set out in permanent perennial flower beds by September.

Vegetables

Frosts should be finished this month, so its time to get vegetables into the ground. If you don't have the ideal sunny space for a vegetable garden, try growing a few plants discreetly placed in the flower bed. You can also grow some in large containers placed where they will receive at least six hours of sunlight each day. Vegetable seeds such as sweet corn, okra, snapbeans and squash may be planted now. Trans-plants of tomatoes and sweet peppers may also be set out.

Nandina care

Dig up and transplant small seedlings of nandinas that have grown up under old plants. If established plants have grown too tall and scraggly, cut out older, thicker stems down to ground level.

Time to lime

Warming days of spring are a signal that it's time to apply lime to lawn areas, if the soil needs it. A soil test will reveal whether or not your lawn needs lime and, if so, how much. Contact your county Exten-sion office for more information on soil testing. Hydrated lime acts much faster but is not as long-lasting as limestone. Since lime penetrates the soil slowly, it's advisable to apply in time for early spring showers to help carry it down into the soil where it neutralizes acidity. Cool nights and warm days help break down lime so that it can do its work.

Keep a record

Plan to keep a record of your flowers and vegetables. Note those flowers that bloom each week in the garden and the earliest period that vegetables are ready for harvest. Next winter as you plan next year's garden, these records will be quite handy.

How long until flower seeds come up?

This question is often asked by beginning gardeners. Some of the more common varieties that usually come up in five or 10 days are candytuft, sweet alyssum astern, snapdragon, coreopsis, portulaca, zinnia, annual phlox, baby's breath, lobelia and nasturtium. These varieties require 10 - 20 days: coleus, forget-me-not, scabiosa, Shasta daisy, foxglove, gaillardia and verbena

You'll lose ground by digging too soon

You probably want to get your garden started as soon as possible, but if you start digging before the soil i ready, you'll lose rather than gain. An old-fashioned and true test to determine if soil ready is to take some and mold it into a ball and then squeeze it. If it crumbles apart easily, it's safe to dig, spade, plow or till. If water oozes out when you squeeze or if the ball remains in a soggy mass, leave your garden undisturbed a bit longe If heavy clay soil is dug too soon it will form hard lump These lumps dry into hard "bricks" that can be with yo and your garden for the rest of the season.

Give ability
a chance.

Easter Seals®

© 1995 National Easter Seal Society

SPRING CLEARANCE SAVE like never before!

All pools include:

- filter and pump
- set-in vinyl lining
- heavy gauge bracing
- huge sundeck
- fence & stairs
- pool ladder

The Mariner

1995 Clearance Prices - While They Last!

THE MARINER
Brand New 15' x 24'
Family Size Pool
31' x 19' O.D.

ONLY **$888**

Includes Sundeck, Fence, & Filter

FULL FINANCING*
*Installation optional & extra

Limited Area

HOME OWNERS ONLY - CALL NOW
CALL TOLL FREE - **FREE HOME SURVEY**

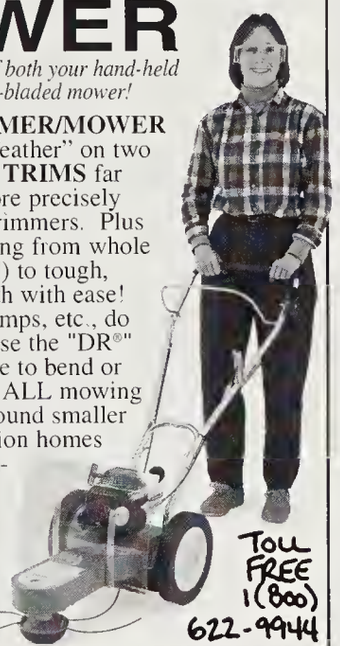
1-800-761-1064

Tropical Pools

evolutionary "2-in-1"
TRIMMER/ MOWER

akes the place of both your hand-held rimmer and steel-bladed mower!

e **DR® TRIMMER/MOWER** ts "light as a feather" on two G WHEELS! **TRIMS** far ier, better, more precisely n hand-held trimmers. Plus **OWS** everything from whole ns (even wet!) to tough, ist-high growth with ease! cks, roots, stumps, etc., do o harm because the "DR®" no steel blade to bend or l. Perfect for ALL mowing l trimming around smaller perties, vacation homes , or for finish- mowing and ming after ng mowers larger par- s. A delight *anyone* se!



TOLL FREE 1(800) 622-9944

se mail this coupon today for **FREE DETAILS** about Revolutionary **DR® TRIMMER/MOWER** including es of Manual, Electric-Starting and Compact Models, -Season" Savings now in effect, and 30-Day Risk-Free l. There is no obligation.

e _____ CAC

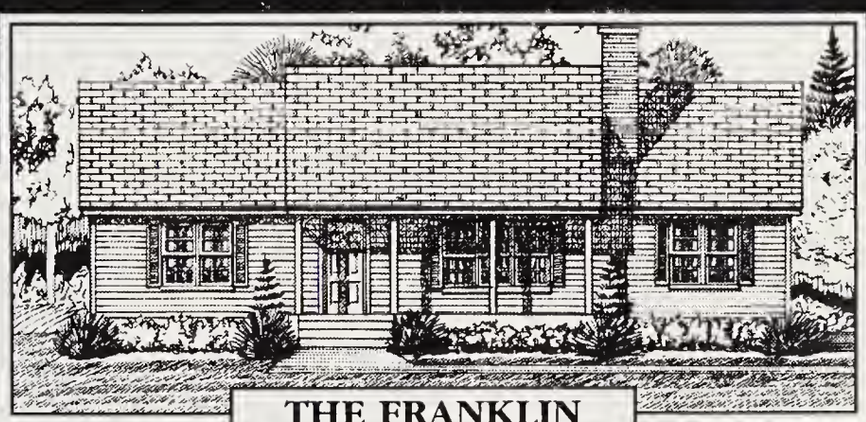
ress _____

_____ State _____ ZIP _____

COUNTRY HOME PRODUCTS®, Dept. 1178
Ferry Road, P.O. Box 89, Charlotte, VT 05445

© 1996 CHP, Inc.

Your Land, Our Plans.



THE FRANKLIN

With American Family Homes

- Quality homes affordably priced from the mid $60s.
- Building on your lot - anywhere in our Carolina markets.
- "Stick built" and completely finished.
- 31 floorplans to choose from.
- 100% financing for qualified landowners.
- **Includes allowance for well and septic.**
- Get the most home for your money- call 704-568-6884 or 1-800-544-9139 in Charlotte. Call 910-691-1996 or 1-800-896-7922 in Greensboro or mail the coupon!

American Family Homes®

For a free brochure or appointment call or visit our Sales Centers at 6300-C E. Independence Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28212 or at 2609-B Randleman Rd., Greensboro, NC 27400

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I own a lot: Yes _____ No _____ Located in _____ County _____ State _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

❑ Please send me a FREE American Family Homes Video

CC 4/96

American Family Homes, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Interstate General Co. L.P.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Marketplace

How to Reach the Marketplace

Space is available for 1-inch and 2-inch display ads. The cost for advertising ranges from $179 to $349 per ad, depending upon the number of times an ad is published.

Carolina Country
PO Box 27306,
Raleigh, NC 27611
1 (800) 662-8835

FREE CATALOG!

New Hearing Aids
●All Models ● Huge Savings
●Try Before You Buy!
1-800-227-2113 (24HRS)
Write: BETTER HEARING
20212, 2nd St., Brookport, IL 62910

NURSERY STOCK & SEED

GROW HALF DOLLAR SIZE MUSCADINES & BLACKBERRIES. FREE CATALOG.
200 varieties fruit, nut trees, vines & berries.
1-800-733-0324
ISON'S NURSERY, Brooks, Georgia 30205

FREE Poultry Catalog Showing
All Kinds of Poultry in Color

Over 70 Varieties. Baby Chicks, Exotic Rare Breeds, Fighting Games, Guineas, Turkeys, Peafowl, Bantams, Pheasants. MasterCard & Visa... *Write or call today for your copy of this year's Big* FREE *Poultry Catalog in Color.*
MARTI POULTRY FARM
Box 27-35 Windsor, Missouri 65360
Telephone – 816 647-3156

Premier
Building Systems

1-800-882-5150
PBS

The more you look, the better we look!
30 x 40 x 10.....$4,519
40 x 75 x 10.....$8,594
50 x 100 x 12.....$13,543
60 x 100 x 12.....15,706
100 x 150 x 14 w/column...$34,897
All sizes available & mini-storage units, 26 ga., 20 year roof & walls.

"We challenge you to find a better built or more comfortable swing."
BANKSTON SWING CO.
WALTER B. HIGH, *Pres.*
Rockingham, NC
1-800-YO-SWING

IOF FORESTERS

Looking for sales representatives.
Commission-based.
Call (704) 536-0968.

BONUS Chick SPECIAL

100 for **$24.95** **50** for **$17.95**
25 for **$12.95** plus shipping charges

Guaranteed all Heavy Breed Meat Producers. All, day-old chicks delivered to your door by the postman. **Order Now** direct from this ad and get **extra Bonus** chicks **Free.** Write or call for **Free** color catalog. Shows over 100 varieties of chicks, Pheasants, Ducks, Turkeys, Guineas, Fighters — all in color.

GRAIN BELT HATCHERY
Box 125-17, Windsor, Missouri 65360
Call Now — 816 647-2711

TAN AT HOME!
SUNVISION™
WOLFF® Tanning Beds
BUY DIRECT & SAVE UP TO 50%!
- Call for **FREE** 64-page Color Catalog
- Lowest Prices in the USA!
- Financing as low as $20/MO.
- Home Delivery

1-800-842-1324

GOSPEL PIANISTS & ORGANISTS Exciting Book & Cassette

"PLAY GOSPEL SONGS BY EAR!" Shows how to play and chord any hymn you've ever heard-entirely by ear! Find the right starting note, add chords, play in easy keys. Book $7.95. *Cassette* gives more explanations & illustrates how songs sound. Includes *chord chart* showing 84 chords. Cassette $7.95. Both $14.90 ppd. GUARANTEED! (Specify piano or organ).
DAVIDSON, 6727 C Metcalf, Shawnee Mission, KS 66204

Includes all material, erection, freight & sales tax
NO HIDDEN EXTRAS!

Steel Frames • Clear Spans

42'x48'x12' $7,688.00
24'x36'x10' $3,898.00

Agri-Steel Structures
P.O. Box 1257 • Woodstock, GA 30188
1-800-359-8613

America's Oldest & Largest Rare Breed Hatchery
Free Color Catalog
Over 140 varieties Baby Chicks, Bantams, Turkeys, Game Birds, Peacocks, Waterfowl, Guineas, plus Books, Equipment, Eggs, Incubators & Medicine.

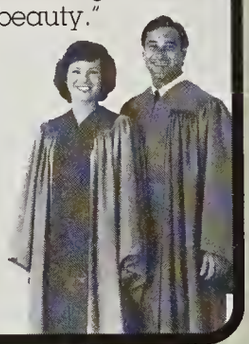
1-800-456-3280
(24 hours a day)
Murray McMurray Hatchery
C 130 Webster City
Iowa 50595-0458

LYRIC CHOIR GOWNS

"Professionally tailored gowns of lasting beauty."

FREE catalog and fabric samples.

Since 1955...
LYRIC
CHOIR GOWN CO.
P.O. Box 16954-RP
Jacksonville, FL 32245
CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-847-7977



Modern Lightning Protection Company
40 years experience protecting homes and buildings
Raleigh/Greenville
Call Toll-free 800-368-8090
24 hours a day

"SPRING LIQUIDATION"

- *Financing Available!*
- *Low Monthly Payments!*

Save on Select Models
25×36 • 30×48
40×62 • 50×120

©1995 SteelMaster

SAVE UP TO 50%
Buy factory direct! • Build it yourself!
American Owned • American Built
CALL TODAY!
1-800-888-4606
STEELMASTER®

AEC BUILDINGS

1-800-531-6575
• ALL SIZES •

For the Best Deal on Quality Stee

40x60x12.....$7,9
50x100x14.....$13,8
60x100x 4.....$15,8
100x150x16 w/column.....$32,8

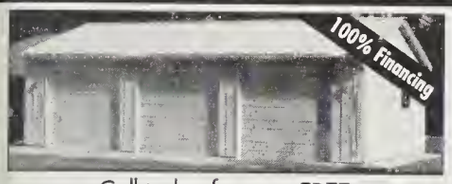
Mini Storage Units Also Available
All 26 gauge, 20-year roof and walls

"HEAVY BREED" SPECIAL!

Get big Reds, big Buff White Rocks, & huge Silver Laced Black Giants. Super healthy easy-to-raise chicks for only $18.95 per hundred plus postage and 1 1/2 cents each packing fee. 50 for $12.95. Our choice pullets, ckls, st. run mixed together as available. Order now! We ship C.O.D. Send name and address, or telephone (717)426-3411.

RED TOP CHICK FARMS
R.D. 1, MARIETTA, PA 17547

This spring sweep up the savings on a Lester Town & Country Building.



Call today for your FREE
Lester Town & Country Video and Design Kit!

★ 910-892-0776 ★

Keystone Construction
Dunn / Erwin, NC

LESTER
LESTER BUILDING SYSTEMS
A Division of Butler Manufacturing Company

DESIGNED, CONSTRUCTED AND WARRANTED BY
MORTON BUILDINGS

Call Your Local Design Representative

Lexington, NC	(704) 249-0490
Hendersonville, NC	(704) 687-7171
Wilson, NC	(919) 291-1300

CHURCH PEWS PADDED
by CAMPBELLS

PADDING YOUR OLD PEWS
FOR ABOUT ⅓
THE COST OF NEW PEWS
"Satisfied Customers Statewide"

- Quality Materials
- Expert Workmanship
- Written Guarantees
- Free Estimates

Call collect
(919) 772-5238
Raleigh, N.C.
Write 4612 Meadow Lake Drive
Apex, N.C. 27502

BUILD A BETTER BUILDING LARGE SAVINGS

- Easy to Assemble
- Quick Delivery
- Built to Last
- Straight Sides
- Trussless
- All Steel
- 20 Year Guarantee

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES

20x24 VALUE $7,884.00 NOW $4,097.00
35x40 VALUE $12,734.00 NOW $6,661.00
40x44 VALUE $13,366.00 NOW $7,330.00

Straightwall Models. Freight included to NC, SC and VA

CALL NOW 1-800-474-5259
PIONEER STEEL BUILDINGS - since 1980

Arco

1-800-241-8339

30x40x10	$ 4,194
40x60x12	$ 7,947
50x75x10	$ 10,172
60x100x12	$ 15,750
60x75x12	$ 12,263
50x100x12	$ 13,186
100x100x12 w/column	$ 22,977
100x150x14 w/column	$ 34,981

We will match any deal with Quality Steel !
3300 Holcomb Bridge Rd., Suite 201
Norcross, Georgia 30092

BE A MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST!

WORK AT HOME

Home study course. You could make $30,000 *or more.* Work in doctors' offices or at home.
FREE LITERATURE: 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age ____
Address _____ Phone ( ) _____
City/State _____ Zip _____

The School of Medical Transcription, PCDI
Dept. YYE453, 6065 Roswell Road, Atlanta, GA 30328

Animal lovers!

Home study prepares you for great jobs in animal care and veterinary assistance.
Free literature: 800-223-4542

Name _____ Age ____
Address _____ Phone ( ) _____
City/State _____ Zip _____

School of Animal Science, Dept.CCB453
PCDI, 6065 Roswell Road, Atlanta, GA 30328

CHOIR ROBES
EXPERT TAILORING $26.95 UP

Finest Fabrics including Permanent Press and Wash & Wear. Superior Quality. Free Color Catalog and Fabric Swatches on Request. *Guaranteed Satisfaction.*

Toll Free 1-800-826-8612

REGENCY
CAP & GOWN CO.
P.O. Box 8988-N
Jacksonville, Florida 32211

HERITAGE
BUILDING SYSTEMS
800-643-5555

BUILD IT YOURSELF AND SAVE

24 x 40 x 10	$3,998
36 x 40 x 10	$5,111
40 x 60 x 12	$7, 235
50 x 75 x 12	$10,129
60 x 100 x 12	$14,677
150 x 200 x 14 (m-1)	$64,576

Commercial steel buildings featuring easy bolt up assembly from America's largest distributor. We have over 10,000 standard sizes of shop, farm, industrial, commercial and mini-warehouse buildings. All are complete with engineer stamped permit drawings, 20 year roof and wall rust warranty. Call us today for a free information package and a quote on our top quality buildings or building component parts.

Mini Warehouse Sale
$9,999
[illegible] with 24 units complete with partitions

Complete First Year Set Of...
SHORTEST U.S. DOLLAR SERIES SINCE 1795!

The Susan B. Anthony Dollar was issued only 3 years! The only other U.S. Dollar with a shorter life was the 1794-95 Flowing Hair Dollar — America's 1st Dollar!

This is *your* opportunity to get the complete First Year All-Mint Set of the historic 1979 Susan B. Anthony Dollar. One Uncirculated coin from each U.S. Mint— Philadelphia, San Francisco, Denver. Purchased individually these 3 coins would cost $11.50, but this offer saves you money. YOURS FOR ONLY $5 per set!

Ridiculed by the public as the "Carter Quarter" the mini-dollar is fast becoming a *prized collectible.* Hard to put together now, a First Year Set will get even harder. Clip the coupon below and send today! You'll also receive our fully illustrated catalog, plus other fascinating selections from our Free Examination Coins-on-Approval service, from which you may purchase any or none – return balance in 15 days – with option to cancel at any time. Satisfaction guaranteed. DON'T DELAY! (Limit 4 sets.)

Littleton Coin Company, Dept. KZT316, Littleton, NH 03561
Celebrating Over 50 Years of Friendly Service to Collectors ©LCC

☐**YES!** Please send me the **First Year All-Mint Set of 1979 Susan B. Anthony Dollars** for **ONLY $5.00.**

_____How many ? (*Limit 4*)
$_____Total enclosed

Send coupon with payment to:

Littleton Coin Company
Dept. KZT316
Littleton, NH 03561

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Address _____

City_____State____Zip_____-_____

Full 45-Day Money Back Guarantee of Satisfaction

Joyner's Corner

by Charles Joyner

It's that time again.

• Acrostic: North Carolina spring •

Answer each clue and write the word in the numbered spaces. Then put each letter into th diagram under a matching number. The finished message is an old North Carolina saying.

Answer on page

CLUES

A. Home of N.C. State University _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

B. Marshall is the seat of this county _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
8 2 9 5 10 11 12

C. Home of Wake Forest University _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
13 5 12 10 14 11 12 10 2 3 4

D. This county is bounded by Bertie County on the south _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
7 4 1 14 15 11 1 9

E. This county is bounded by Hertford County on the north _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
16 4 1 14 5 4

13	7	4	12	●	14	7	4	●	9	11	6		
11	11	9	●	16	3	11	11	8	10	●	5		
●	5	10	●	14	5	8	4	●	14	11	●		
11	●	16	2	1	4	15	11	11	14	4	9		

Taxing Instructions

1. Enter any three consecutive digits from 1 through 9. Example 123… 234…789. _____
2. Enter the converse (reverse of the number on line 1). _____
3. Subtract line 1 from line 2. _____
4. Add 800 to line 3. _____
5. Multiply line 4 by 4. _____
6. Multiply the year you were born by 2 and enter here. _____
7. Subtract line 6 from line 5. _____
8. Enter half of the number on line 7. _____

If, on December 31, 1996, you are younger than the figure on line 8, you will not be required to pay any taxes for this calendar year.

"According to this map, this highway should be blue."

Classifieds

Animals & Pets

FREE CATALOG-WHOLESALE PRICES. Broiler and Pedigree Laying Chicks, Turkeys, Ducks, Guineas, Goslings. Reich Poultry Farms, Marietta, PA 17547. Phone (717)-426-3411.

Auctions

ED HUGHES AUCTIONS SALES, Trinity, NC. Real Estate, Farm Machinery, Personal Property. (910) 472-5413 or (910) 472-6431.

Business Opportunities

WATKINS PRODUCTS. Serving 127 Years. Call Hixie 1-800-804-8011 or (919)-528-0179.

WATKINS QUALITY PRODUCTS: Spices, Flavoring, Shampoos, Cleaning Products, Excellent Income Potential. Write: Dot, Route 3, Box 225, Conover, NC 28613.

MONEY MAKING OPPORTUNITIES: And information. Guaranteed to make you money. Mail $5.00 to C&A Enterprises, PO Box 298-C, Lemon Springs, NC 28355.

NEW! GROW EXPENSIVE PLANTS, 2,000% Profit, Free Information. Growbiz, Box 306-NC4, Seminary, MS 39479.

Employment

EARN $15 OR MORE PER HOUR From Home! Avon. 1-800-566-8055.

For Sale

CASSETTE TAPES. TRUCK DRIVIN' MAMA. $5.00 to Angel Dawn, Route 1, Box 12, Elkin, NC 28621.

2 TRAILER HITCHES, Electrical Box, Maple Dining Room Set, Etc. 704-624-3047.

SANDING BELTS - 3x21 99¢ each, 4x36 $2.25, 1x42 $1.25 - Others Available. RS Wholesale, PO Box 653, Randleman, NC 27317 (910) 495-1386.

IF RESTAURANTS ARE CONCERNED about your drinking water, shouldn't you be? Water Filters - Clean water is your choice. (910) 487-0906.

Help Wanted

ASSEMBLE SIMPLE CRAFT PRODUCTS at home! Excellent Extra Income! Program Guaranteed! 1-800-377-6000, ext. 8820.

Insurance

AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE. Call Today for Information. John Janson 1-800-775-0664.

MILITARY RETIREES. Champus Supplement, Will Pay The 25% Allowed Plus 100% of All Excess Charges. Brochure 1-800-627-2824 Ext. 490.

Miscellaneous

IS YOUR WATER SAFE? Free Water Test. Insure Your Family's Health. Call 704-535-6003. Leave Message For Same Day Return Call and Free Information. Not MLM.

Real Estate

WE BUY OWNER Financed Mortgages For Cash. Call Clay 1-800-288-0112.

FLORIDA SMALL TOWN LIVING - St. Johns River area. Low prices, low crime, low traffic - Free pictures & Information. Harris & Assoc. Real Estate (904) 698-2776.

Wanted

OWNER FINANCED Mortgage/Trust Notes. Cash Paid Now! Heritage 1-800-843-2790.

OLD RECORDS: Buy, Sell, Trade. Want 78's (10-inch) mainly of Folk, Jazz, Blues - No Pop! Have many of all types for sale/trade from 30 years activity. Mike Stewart - PO Box 267, Mill Spring, NC 28756 (704)894-2706.

WOOD & COAL STOVES Made by Glascock Stove Co. Greensboro, NC. Victor, Carolina, Charter, Paramount, Etc. Parts & Information Also. Glascock Historian, PO Box 38, Ennice, NC 28623 (910) 657-8152.

Weight Control

SUMMERS COMING! BIKINI? Prepare Now! Natural/Guaranteed Weight Loss. (704)878-2694.

ALL STEEL HOMES™

COMPLETE PACKAGE
Red Iron Framing, Steel Roof, Siding & Insulation
$14,685
1,305 SQ.FT.
800-278-0888

CAROLINA COUNTRY CLASSIFIEDS reach more than 345,000 Carolina Country households.

Rates are $2 per word ($20 minimum per ad). Maximum 75 words. Phone number is one word. Limit two ads per month per advertiser. Payment must accompany order. No refunds. No discounts. Make checks and money orders payable to Carolina Country.

Ads will be published on a space-available basis. Carolina Country reserves the right to edit and refuse any ad.

Enclose exact ad message with payment. No more than one column-line will be printed in upper-case type (no boldface). Indicate preferred heading and number of months ad should run. All orders must include telephone number, in the event we have questions. No "personals" accepted.

Deadline is the 25th of the month, five weeks before publication. For example, deadline for June is April 25, deadline for September is July 25, deadline for January is November 25. Orders received after deadline will be published the following issue.

For information, call Jennifer Boedart Hoey at (919) 713-1307. No classified ads will be accepted by phone.

Send order, payment and message to Carolina Country Classifieds, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611.

Matt, Jeanie, George, Peter & Andy Douglass

Help Other People and Earn $4000 Per Month From Your Home With A Computer!

This is a family-owned business offered to other families. George, Jeanie and their three sons have built a $35,000,000 business (together) helping other people. They will teach you how to earn up to $4,000 or more each month from your home with a computer by performing services for your community. You can start part time and retain the security of your present position. You do not need to own or know how to run a computer—they provide complete training. If you purchase their software and training material you will receive a Pentium™ computer, color monitor and printer at no extra cost. If you already own a computer, they will give you a discount. Financing available. George & Jeanie have developed timely strategies that when followed can mean immediate success. They have recorded their secrets on two cassette tapes which they will send to you FREE.

Learn how other families are building lifetime incomes!

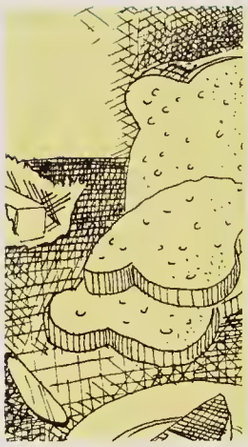
To receive free explanation cassettes and color literature, call toll-free:

1-800-343-8014, ext. 1662

Or Write: COMPUTER BUSINESS SERVICES, INC., CBSI PLAZA, STE. 1662, SHERIDAN, INDIANA 46069

MasterCard VISA DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

Country Kitchen



Everyone who's tried this recipe raves about it.

BASIL CHICKEN MEDLEY

Submitted by Mrs. Oscar C. Allen

1 tablespoon olive oil
3 garlic cloves, minced
1¼ pounds boneless, skinless chicken breast, cut into 1-inch chunks
1 medium zucchini squash, cut into chunks
2 medium tomatoes, cut into chunks
1 tablespoon dried basil
2 tablespoon vinegar
¼ tablespoon pepper
cooked rice or pasta

Heat oil in skillet. Sauté garlic. Add chicken and cook until no longer pink. Remove chicken from skillet and keep warm. Combine zucchini squash, tomatoes, basil and vinegar. Toss to coat vegetables well. Pour into skillet and stir. Fry about 3-5 minutes. Return chicken to skillet and heat through. Serve immediately over rice or pasta. (Yield: 4 servings)

Want to share recipes?

If you would like to share a recipe with Country Kitchen, send it to Recipes, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

We pay $5 for recipes we publish and present each monthly winner set of 50 recipe cards featuring a reprint of the published recipe.

Are You Paying Too Much For Life Insurance?

Depending on the company you select, a 45-year old man can pay anywhere from about $40 to over $100 per month for a $250,000 10-year term life policy.

To Avoid Overpaying, Call For A Free Quote.

Through Matrix Direct Insurance Services, you can purchase affordable term life policies from highly-rated insurance companies:

CONSIDER THESE EXAMPLES:
10-Year Term Preferred Non-Smoker-Male
Guaranteed Monthly Premiums

Age	$100,000	$250,000	$500,000
35	10.88	19.36	33.50
45	17.84	36.76	68.30

Call for a fast, free quote on policies from $100,000 to $10,000,000 that allow you to lock in today's low rates for up to 20 years.

MATRIX DIRECT INSURANCE SERVICES

Call To See How Much You Can Save.

1-800-465-4208

Insurance is offered through Matrix Direct Insurance Services. The quoted rates are underwritten by First Penn-Pacific Life Insurance Company (Oakbrook Terrace, IL). Rates subject to underwriting criteria. Policy Form No. BT-1000. Not available in all states.

From page 28

Answer to "Acrostic"

When the dogw
ood blooms it
is time to g
o barefooted

A. Raleigh
B. Madison
C. Winston Salem
D. Hertford
E. Bertie

You can afford your own pool!

At Neptune Pools, we believe a quality pool should be within everyone's budget!

Plus, when you buy your dream pool, you'll also receive a FREE winter cover and starter chemicals. So, call today for a free yard survey and information on all our pools and decks. And leave your summer vacation planning to us!

- Financing available
- Full installation and service department
- Standard and custom decks

Call **1-800-323-7946**

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9am - 9pm

NEPTUNE POOLS, Inc.

Serving the Southeast with quality pools for over a decade!

**15'x25' oval*

ORDER YOUR AMAZING 5 IN 1 FRUIT TREE - TODAY!

FRUIT COCKTAIL TREE

- Plump Purple Plums
- Juicy Nectarines
- Tasty Peaches
- Ripe Red Plums
- Tangy Apricots

Sorry, not available in CA, WA, ID, OR

Fragrant Spring Blooms!

Winter Hardy!

Enjoy 5 Fabulous Fruits From One Terrific Tree!

"Be the ENVY of the Neighborhood."

Imagine the first sugar-sweet bite of a juicy peach picked fresh from the tree. Savor the sun-ripened flavor of a plump nectarine or the tart tang of fresh picked apricots. Maybe even top it all off with a handful of tasty plums. Until now, this dream was possible only for fortunate folks with acres of space and an orchard full of trees. But not anymore.

You'll Pick Luscious Fresh Fruit By The Bushel--Right In Your Own Backyard!

This amazing 5-in-1 fruit tree is skillfully grafted with five of the most popular fruits around. When mature, each tree produces bountiful bushels of peaches, nectarines, apricots, red and purple plums. One or two of these terrific trees could supply your family with all the fresh fruit it can eat for many months. What's more, you'll have plenty left over for mouth-watering jams, jellies and oven-fresh pies! Best of all, it takes only a few feet of space in a sunny backyard to grow. It's the perfect height for easy picking, too--just 12' to 15' fully grown.

Your kids will love watching the Fruit Cocktail Tree grow. And neighbors will marvel at its fragrant spring blossoms and great tasting fruit. We ship only strong, well-rooted 3'-4' trees guaranteed to grow. Order today, and enjoy!

MICHIGAN BULB COMPANY
1950 WALDORF, N.W., PO BOX 140647
GRAND RAPIDS MI 49514-0647

RT 6113 A

YES! Please ship my order as marked below. All items are covered by your LIFETIME GUARANTEE.

"R" Michigan Bulb Company
1950 Waldorf, N.W.
P.O. Box 140647
Grand Rapids, MI 49514-0647

WRITE "R" ON YOUR ENVELOPE FOR 72 HOUR SERVICE

We guarantee to process your order within 72 hours of receipt if you write "R" on the outside of your envelope.

Fruit Cocktail Tree (#03632)

☐ 1 for only $17.95*
☐ 2 for only $29.90*
Save $6

$. TOTAL AMOUNT

*MI residents add 6% Sales Tax. * TN residents add 8.25% Sales Tax. * MO residents add 5.725% Sales Tax.

MR.
MRS.
MISS
MS. _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

☐ Payment enclosed, plus $2.90 for postage and handling.
☐ Bill on my credit card, plus $2.90 postage and handling. Indicate below which credit card you wish to be billed on credit card number, and expiration date.

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Am. Express ☐ Discover/N

Credit Card #

Exp. Date

Thank You For Your Order!

The Best Guarantee In The Business!

LIFETIME GUARANTEE

If you're not happy with any item you order from us, simply return it within 15 days for a full refund or replacement, whichever you prefer. What's more, any items that do not grow and flourish to your complete satisfaction will be replaced FREE – with no time limit – for as long as you garden.